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Japan

Official Says Congress 'Lacks Common Sense'

OW2909083490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0823 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 29 KYODO—A top Defense Agency official has criticized a recent amendment to a defense bill passed by the U.S. House of Representatives which called for gradual withdrawal of U.S. forces in Japan unless Japan bears the full costs of the forces.

"The U.S. Congress lacks common sense. Japan did not ask for the stationing of the U.S. forces. We will have to say then to let the forces return home," if Congress passes such a resolution, the official, who asked not to be named, said Friday.

The Japan-U.S. Security Treaty says the U.S. is granted the use by its land, air, and naval forces of facilities and areas in Japan for the purpose of contributing to the security of Japan and the maintenance of international peace and security in the Far East.

The Defense Agency has tried to respond as much as possible to the U.S. request for an increase in payments to meet the cost of maintaining the forces here, defense sources said. The agency has already informed U.S. officials of a Japanese Government plan to bear more of the burden for the U.S. in the next five-year defense program to be decided by the end of the year, the sources said. But the bearing of the costs affects the budget for Japanese defense and there is a strong sentiment in the agency against the ever-growing requests from the U.S., according to the sources.

Defense Minister Admits Criticizing Congress

OW2909150090 Tokyo KYODO in English 1432 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 29 KYODO—State Minister for Defense Yozo Ishikawa on Saturday admitted that he had criticized the U.S. Congress over Japan's burden-sharing matter but said he did not reject the stationing of U.S. forces in Japan. Ishikawa told reporters that he intended to reject any emotional reaction to Japan's sharing of cost of maintaining U.S. forces.

In a hurriedly arranged press meeting, Ishikawa said that he intended to say any emotional reaction would produce unfavorable results and that he did not aim at refusing or questioning the stationing of U.S. forces in Japan. In a meeting with reporters on Friday, Ishikawa criticized a U.S. congressional resolution which urged Japan to pay the full cost of keeping American forces in Japan. The resolution, passed on September 12 by the House of Representatives by a 370-53 vote, also proposed to withdraw annually 5,000 of over 40,000 troops unless Japan complies with the demand.

"The U.S. Congress lacks common sense. Japan has never asked for the stationing of the troops. Then, please go home," Ishikawa said at that time speaking on condition of anonymity. The Defense Agency director general said on Saturday that the stationing of the U.S. forces is important to cement the reliability of the bilateral security arrangements.

Both Japan and the United States have done much for a smooth stationing of the American forces in Japan, Ishikawa said. Ishikawa was the second member of the cabinet of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu in less than a week to speak critically of Americans. On September 21, Justice Minister Seiroku Kajiyama angered Americans by saying that prostitutes, like blacks in the United States, force respectable citizens to move out of their neighborhood. Kajiyama made the remarks after inspecting the amusement district in the Shinjuku area of Tokyo.

Prime Minister Kaifu, currently in the U.S. to attend a United Nations-sponsored summit meeting on children's welfare, said in New York on Friday that he regrets Kajiyama's comment. "I believe it is important that correct awareness be disseminated among Japanese people with regard to the minority issue, and the minority situation in the United States," Kaifu said in an interview with CBS TV. Kaifu was due to meet President George Bush in New York on Saturday.

Okinawa Committee Meets on U.S. Bases Issues

OW2909093690 Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese 27 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 2

[Text] The Tripartite Liaison Committee [TLC], which consists of the prefectural government, the Naha Defense Facilities Administration Bureau [DFAB], and U.S. military representatives, held its 14th session at Okinawa's Fuji Hotel in Naha on 26 September. There were three major issues among the five topics discussed: 1) the implementation of plans to reorganize and reduce military bases; 2) the reduction of aircraft noise pollution; and 3) self-restraint in holding exercises. They also discussed the prevention of incidents and accidents, and measures for environmental conservation. As a result, a positive approach on reorganizing and reducing bases has been noticed.

The current session was the first to be held in approximately 25 months, but participants agreed to hold sessions more frequently. Moreover, this was the first time that the three sides attended a session accompanied by their own interpreters.

Among those who attended from the prefectural government were Governor Nishime, Vice Governor Miyagi, and Murayama, director of the Governor's Executive Office; from the DFAB were Director Teramura; Kawai, chief of the Facilities Division; and Ota, chief of the Operation Division; and from the U.S. military were Major General Stackpole, U.S. Forces Okinawa Area coordinator, and officers of the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps. In addition, American General Consul Farrar was also present at the session.

Concerning the issue of reorganizing and reducing U.S. military bases in Okinawa, Governor Nishime pointed out: "The large number of U.S. facilities and the vast area on which they are situated have restricted the implementation of various policies aimed at developing industries and promoting urban development." While expressing gratitude for the accord on the return of around 1,000 hectacres announced last June, the governor requested that procedures for the return should be expedited and that the Naha port and Okuma Rest Center facilities, whose return has not been agreed upon yet, should be returned soon.

Replying to the request, Maj. Gen. Stackpole said: "We members of the U.S. forces stationed in Okinawa will try to understand the feelings of prefectural residents in the future and to offer our cooperation in promoting the return of military bases." In addition, Director Teramura said: "While coordinating with the people concerned, we will do our best to promote the early return."

Regarding aircraft-related noise pollution, Governor Nishime expressed his concern about the serious effect of this on the daily lives of the people living in the vicinity of the Kadena and Futenma Air Bases, and called for self-restraint in holding nighttime or weekend exercises, in accordance with agreements reached at previous TLC sessions. In response, both the U.S. forces and the DFAB promised that facilities to reduce noise pollution (noise-reducing devices) will be installed and that a noise-reducing project will be carried out in residential areas.

Furthermore, concerning live shell exercises, conducted by closing Prefectural Highway Route 104, Governor Nishime stressed that prefectural residents are dissatisfied because such exercises have caused inconveniences and apprehension among local residents and requested self-restraint in conducting such exercises at the Camp Hansen training grounds. In response, Maj. Gen. Stackpole merely stated: "Whenever we conduct exercises, we have considered prefectural residents' wishes and paid attention so as not to conduct exercises in early mornings, at night, or during school hours."

Moreover, concerning the prevention of incidents and accidents, Maj. Gen. Stackpole disclosed that "U.S. forces personnel are first selected at home and then dispatched to Okinawa." He added that "due attention has been paid to" measures for environmental preservation.

Kaifu, Bush Discuss Gulf Efforts, GATT Talks

OW3009032190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0302 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] New York, Sept. 29 (KYODO)—U.S. President George Bush on Saturday accepted an invitation to visit Japan early next year in wide-ranging talks with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, Japanese officials said.

They also agreed to maintain close contact on rapidly rising oil prices, the officials said. Kaifu told Bush that Japan is not considering using its oil reserves at the present time. Bush dipped into oil reserves last week in an apparent effort to halt a surge in oil prices due to speculation. They agreed to seek coordination on the matter with the International Energy Agency, the officials said.

Bush said he welcomes Japan's financial support for U.S. forces stationed in Japan and urged Kaifu to consider increasing its host nation contribution. Kaifu said increased support is one of the matters being discussed in a new midterm defense plan being formulated for next April.

Bush praised Japan's pledge to provide 4 billion dollars to help efforts to restore peace in the Persian Gulf and said he hopes the funds would be swiftly dispersed. Bush said he understands Japan's constitutional restrictions that bar direct military involvement. Further contributions to international efforts to maintain peace would be welcomed throughout the world, he added.

Japan has announced plans to make available 2 billion dollars to support logistical needs of multinational forces and another 2 billion dollars to frontline countries—Jordan, Egypt, and Turkey—suffering from U.N. sanctions against Iraq.

Kaifu has also proposed legislation to enable the overseas dispatch of its Self-Defense Forces in noncombat roles.

In the 70-minute meeting Kaifu explained that Japan has developed a consensus over the past 46 years to reject the use of military forces and that this has contributed to stability in the Asia- Pacific region. It was the first time the two leaders met since the hostilities broke out in the Middle East in August but they have often talked by phone at crucial times in Japan's plans for contributing to the crisis. Kaifu and Bush have met four times since Kaifu became Prime Minister 13 months ago.

Bush and Kaifu agreed that it is important to reach a successful conclusion to the multilateral trade talks being conducted under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). Kaifu said Japan took a step toward reaching a successful conclusion at the end of the year, when he included rice on a list submitted to the GATT last week on a list of commodities on which Japan will decrease its domestic protection.

Kaifu explained the unexpected advance in relations with North Korea. Last week North Korean President Kim Il-song told former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru during a visit to Pyongyang that he would like to enter negotiations on establishing formal relations. The two countries do not have diplomatic ties and Kanemaru was the first senior member of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party to visit the country.

Japan plans to keep in close contact with South Korea and the United States on the developments, Kaifu said. Japanese officials said Bush noted but did not comment.

Bush confirmed his support for Japan's demand that Moscow return four tiny islands off Hokkaido, occupied by the Soviet Union since the end of World War II. Kaifu said the dispute is a remnant of East-West tensions and must be cleared up before Japan offers substantial financial assistance to the Soviets.

Nakayama on Kaifu Gulf Trip, Burden Sharing

OW0110145790 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1259 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Interview with Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama by Kenzo Sano in New York; date not given; from the "NHK News 21" program—recorded]

[Text] [Sano] My question concerns the Gulf crisis. This time, it seems that there has been a lot of discussion between Prime Minister Kaifu and President Bush and between you, Mr. Foreign Minister, and Secretary Baker. The U.S. still says that it will not rule out its military options. What do you think of this?

[Nakayama] In my talks with Mr. Baker and during Prime Minister Kaifu's talks with President Bush, the U.S. stated that it will not rule out its military options. In this connection, we have informed the United States of the Japanese Government's hope that every effort will be made to settle the Gulf crisis peacefully through diplomatic channels.

The situation has aroused such indignation and a strong demand in the international community for self-examination. I think things depend on how President Saddam Husayn will react to diplomatic incentives. Of course, the release of hostages should also be considered.

[Sano] My next question concerns Japan's contributions to efforts in the Gulf. How does the United States view the measures?

[Nakayama] In our talks, the U.S. Government spoke highly of Japan's measures. Moreover, the United Kingdom and the Federal Republic of Germany, both members of the European Community, have reacted to Japan's measures. Under such circumstances, future measures will depend on how the situation develops, as I have just mentioned. For now, we have taken these measures; I think we should continue with them for awhile.

[Sano] The United States has raised the issue, in very strong terms, of Japan's assumption of the cost of maintaining U.S. forces in Japan. What is your reaction?

[Nakayama] Well, as far as the Japanese Government is concerned, we will make our decision independently. However, we must respect our allied relationship with the United States. The Japan-U.S. Security Treaty has not only ensured Japan's security, but has also brought great peace and stability to the Asia-Pacific region. Therefore, based on Japan's current position, Japan must cooperate independently. I think that we certainly must provide our cooperation.

[Sano] Prime Minister Kaifu will finally leave for the Middle East tomorrow. Is there any possibility that he will have contacts with the Iraqis during his tour?

[Nakayama] Well, basic conditions should include an Iraqi understanding of demands for its withdrawal from Kuwait and the release of hostages from various nations. As far as the Japanese Government is concerned, if the Iraqis want to talk under these conditions, we feel that we should talk to them.

[Sano] In other words, unless it can be confirmed that the Iraqs are ready to make some sort of concessions, the prime minister ...

[Nakayama, interrupting] The Japanese Government is in a position to relay these demands as a message. Therefore, we would like to have the opportunity to clearly convey the international community's will, as well as that of Japan.

Kaifu, Perez de Cuellar Discuss Gulf Measures

OW3009011490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0057 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] New York, Sept. 29 (KYODO)—Iraqi President Saddam Husayn has sent a message to Jordan's King Husayn in what may be a new diplomatic initiative to resolve the Persian Gulf crisis, U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar said Saturday. Perez de Cuellar told Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu that Husayn has dispatched Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz to Amman to deliver the message, a Japanese spokesman said.

Perez de Cuellar said he expects the message to open the way for a diplomatic solution to the Gulf crisis, the spokesman said. He did not elaborate on the content of the message or when it was to be delivered, said the spokesman. Kaifu urged Perez de Cuellar to continue his efforts to seek the release of the thousands of hostages. He explained Japan's pledge of 4 billion dollars to assist efforts to resolve the Gulf crisis.

The spokesman said Kaifu outlined Japan's plans to pass a law that would enable the dispatch of noncombat personnel to the Gulf area. Kaifu said the plans would be consistent with Japan's postwar constitution that bans the use of violence in resolving international disputes, the spokesman said.

In the 35-minute meeting Perez de Cuellar told Kaifu he plans to attend the November enthronement of Emperor Akihito.

Earlier in the day Kaifu met the chairmen of Sunday's U.N. World Summit for Children, President Moussa Traore of Mali and Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, officials said. Kaifu thanked them for organizing the unprecedented meeting, bringing together leaders from more than 70 countries to consider the plight of children. Kaifu is one of eight keynote speakers scheduled to address the summit.

Traore said the greatest need is from children living in developing countries, and Japan's contribution is very important. On bilateral issues, Kaifu said a group of Japanese industrialists are scheduled soon to visit Mali in West Africa to try to reclaim desert land and make it fertile.

Mulroney said the Gulf crisis is having a negative impact on children because in developing countries rising prices are cutting budgets for welfare. Children in industrialized countries also face difficulties due to drugs, broken families, and poverty, he said.

Kaifu said long-term solutions are needed to remedy difficulties facing many of the world's children.

Kaifu 'May Meet' With Iraqi Deputy Premier

OW2909030990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0249 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] New York, Sept. 28 (KYODO)—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu may meet with Iraq's first deputy premier when he travels to Jordan next week, government sources said Friday. The sources said that feelers are being sent out to see if such a meeting is possible during Kaifu's seven-day visit to Egypt, Jordan, Turkey, Saudi Arabia and Oman.

If the meeting materializes, it would be the first between a Western leader and a high-ranking Iraqi official since Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on August 2. The Japanese side has informally proposed a meeting between Kaifu and Iraq's First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan in Amman. Ramadan is regarded as the right-hand man of President Saddam Husayn, the sources said. The sources said there is a fifty-fifty chance of such a meeting taking place.

If the meeting can be arranged, Kaifu will call for the unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait and the release of all foreigners being held in Iraq, said a government source traveling with the prime minister.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama was slated to meet with his Iraqi Counterpart Tariq 'Aziz this week, but 'Aziz canceled his trip to the United Nations when the U.S. denied him permission to land in an Iraqi Airlines jet.

Nakayama, Gulf Ministers Discuss Price Hikes

OW2809233490 Tokyo KYODO in English 2305 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] New York, Sept. 28 (KYODO)—The six oil-rich members of Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) questioned the need for the current oil price spiral Friday, saying it apparently stems from "either a psychological reason or stockpiling" by consuming countries.

Foreign ministers from Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Qatar, and Bahrain, together with the Kuwaiti ambassador to the United Nations, expressed the view in a 45-minute meeting with Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama. A Japanese Foreign Ministry official said at a news briefing that the GCC leaders told Nakayama that member countries of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) are making up for the crude losses caused by the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

Daily oil production by Iraq and Kuwait was estimated at roughly four million barrels before the August 2 invasion. "We don't understand the skyrocketing oil prices," the Japanese official quoted one unidentified GCC foreign minister as telling Nakayama.

Nakayama, who is in New York for the annual U.N. General Assembly, opened the meeting with a pledge "to deepen relations" with the GCC, which he said plays an important part in promoting regional stability.

Oman's Foreign Minister Bin-Alawi Bin-'Abdallah, leader of the GCC group, expressed appreciation for Japan's contributions toward resolving the Gulf crisis, saying, "we are in the same boat." The Japanese official quoted one GCC foreign minister as telling Nakayama that "the Gulf situation is generally moving in the right direction," while another called for continued economic sanctions against Iraq.

The GCC ministers were divided over linking the Gulf crisis to other Middle East issues such as Israel's continued occupation of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, according to the Japanese official.

Envoy to Iraq Meets Detainees in Baghdad Hotel

OW2809155690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1518 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 28 KYODO—Japanese Ambassador to Iraq Kunio Katakura had a chance meeting in Baghdad early Friday with four of 141 Japanese believed to have been held at strategic military and industrial facilities in Iraq, the Foreign Ministry said the same day.

Unlike another Japanese captive who was specially allowed to meet the ambassador for health reasons on September 20, the four seen Friday at the al-Mansur Melia Hotel were all in good health, the ministry quoted reports from the Japanese Embassy in Iraq as saying. The four men, all aged around 40 and employees of a single Japanese firm, were not named on a list of ailing Japanese presented by the embassy to the Iraqi Government with a request for their early release, nor on a list of Japanese which parliamentarian Antonio Inoki presented to the Iraqi Government when he visited Baghdad recently to seek their freedom, the reports said.

According to the reports, the four were told they would be allowed to meet the Iraqi president and then taken by car to the hotel in Baghdad a little before 11 a.m. Friday (local time). The Japanese ambassador was later informed of their presence there by who chanced to learn about them while in the hotel.

The embassy is now wondering whether the Government of President Saddam Husayn plans to permit more meetings between the embassy staff and other Japanese nationals held in the wake of the United Nations sanctions against Iraq for its August 2 invasion of Kuwait, the embassy said.

The Foreign Ministry said it will not publish the names of the four Japanese as they asked for anonymity in the hour-long meeting with the Japanese envoy.

PRC Concerned Over Plan for SDF Dispatch

OW3009140290 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1300 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Today, the Chinese Government officially commented for the first time on the Japanese Government's outline of the U.N. Peace Cooperation Bill, which includes the dispatch of the Self-Defense Forces [SDF], and expressed its concern by stating: We cannot help but be concerned, and we hope the Japanese Government will deal with this matter prudently.

The comment was issued by a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman, who stated: We have taken note of the Japanese Government's plan to enact a law on the U.N. Peace Cooperation [Bill]. The people of China and some Asian nations cannot help but be concerned over the Japanese Government's plan to dispatch SDF members to the U.N. Peace Cooperation Corps because that unfortunate part of history remains fresh in their minds. We hope the Japanese Government will deal with this matter prudently.

This was for the first time since the Japanese Government announced its plans on the U.N. Peace Cooperation Bill on 27 September the Chinese Government has officially expressed its concern over the issue.

Kaifu Praises Soviet Cooperation in Gulf Crisis

OW3009014390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0131 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] New York, Sept. 29 (KYODO)—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Saturday praised the Soviet cooperation in the Persian Gulf crisis, saying it was a sign that Moscow is moving in "the right direction," Foreign Ministry officials said.

Kaifu told West German President Richard von Weizsacker that it is necessary for the Soviet Union to demonstrate clearly it is committed to perestroyka, or economic restructuring, the officials said. But he noted that the active Soviet participation in United Nations sanctions against Iraq was sign that the Soviet Union is moving in the right direction politically.

Japan has cited Moscow's continued assistance to Cuba and Vietnam as a reason for withholding financial help from the Soviets.

Kaifu said Japan is willing to provide technical assistance to the Soviet Union, but that its long-held territorial dispute bars extensive financial cooperation. He said he hopes Gorbachev's visit to Japan for next April will help resolve the ownership dispute over four tiny islands east of the northernmost main island of Hokkaido.

The leaders agreed in the 35-minute meeting to cooperate in enforcing U.N. sanctions imposed on Iraq following its August 2 invasion of Kuwait.

Kaifu and von Weizsacker are among some 70 world leaders attending Sunday's U.N. summit on the plight of children.

Further on Party Delegation's Visit to DPRK

Joint Declaration Issued

OW2809115090 Tokyo KYODO in English 1116 GMT 28 Sep 90

["Text of Joint Declaration Released by LDP, JSP, and KWP"—KYODO headline]

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 28 KYODO—The following is the English-language text of the joint declaration issued Friday by the Liberal Democratic Party and the Japan Socialist Party of Japan, and the Korea Workers' Party as distributed by the KOREAN CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY:

Joint Declaration of the Workers' Party of Korea, [WPK]

the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] and

the Socialist Party of Japan [JSP] on Korea-Japan

Relations.

Delegations of the LDP and the JSP visited the Democratic People's Republic of Korea from September 24 to 28, 1990.

President Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, received the delegations.

On the occasion, Shin Kanemaru and Makoto Tanabe who were heading the delegations conveyed personal letters of President of the LDP Toshiki Kaifu and Chairwoman of the Central Executive Committee of the JSP Takako Doi to President Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

During the visit, a series of joint talks were held between the WPK delegation led by Secretary of the party Central Committee Kim Yong-sun, the LDP delegation led by member of the House of Representatives Shin Kanemaru, and the JSP delegation led by Vice Chairman of the Central Executive Committee Makoto Tanabe.

Considering that to normalize and develop Korea-Japan relations on the basis of the idea of independence, peace, and friendship conforms to the interests of the peoples of the two countries and would contribute to peace and prosperity of a new Asia and the world, the delegations of the three parties declare as follows:

1. The three parties consider that Japan should fully and officially apologize and compensate to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the enormous misfortunes and miseries imposed upon the Korean people for 36 years and the losses inflicted upon the Korean people in the ensuing 45 years after the war.

In his personal letter to President Kim Il-song, President Toshiki Kaifu of the LDP admitted that there was an unfortunate past imposed by Japan upon Korea and expressed the hope to improve the DPRK-Japan relations, saying: "Former Prime Minister Takeshita expressed deep remorse and regret over such unfortunate past at the Diet in March last year. I, as prime minister, share his view."

Head of the delegation of the LDP Shin Kanemaru, member of the House of Representatives, too, expressed the same apology for the Japan's past colonial rule over the Korean people.

The three parties consider that in connection with the establishment of the diplomatic relations, full compensation should be made by the Japanese Government for the past 36-year-long colonial rule and the losses inflicted upon the DPRK people in the ensuing 45 years.

2. The three parties consider that the abnormal state between the DPRK and Japan must be eliminated and diplomatic relations be established as soon as possible.

3. The three parties consider that, for the improvement of the relations between DPRK and Japan, it is necessary to develop exchanges between them in various domains including politics, economy, and culture and, for the present, to use satellite communications and open direct air services between the two countries.

4. The three parties consider that the Koreans in Japan must not be discriminated against, their human rights and all national rights and legal status be respected and the Japanese Government should guarantee them by law.

The three parties regard it necessary for the Japanese authorities to remove the entries made in the Japanese passport as regards the DPRK.

5. The three parties consider that Korea is one and that the peaceful reunification through North-South dialogue accords with the national interests of the Korean people.

6. The three parties consider that it is necessary for them to make joint efforts for the building of a peaceful and free Asia and eliminate nuclear threats from all regions on the globe.

7. The three parties agreed to strongly recommend the start of intergovernmental negotiations for the realisation of the establishment of diplomatic relations and the solution of all the outstanding problems within November 1990.

8. The three parties agreed to strengthen party relations and further develop mutual cooperation between the WPK, and the LDP and between the WPK and the JSP in conformity with the desire of the two peoples and in the interest of peace in Asia and the world.

Pyongyang
[Date] September 28, 1990
[Signed] Kim Yong-sun on behalf of the WPK
[Signed] Shin Kanemaru on behalf of the LDP
[Signed] Makoto Tanabe on behalf of the JSP

Kanemaru Reports 'Breakthrough'

OW2909115390 Tokyo KYODO in English 1131 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 29 KYODO—The head of a Japanese ruling party delegation to North Korea, Shin Kanemaru, said on Saturday he has pressed for Japanese Government efforts to improve relations with North Korea, political sources said.

Kanemaru, who visited North Korea Monday through Friday as head of the Liberal Democratic Party mission, paid a visit to chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto at his home Saturday to brief him on the outcome of his visit. Kanemaru told Sakamoto that he and his group have achieved a breakthrough in the 45-year icy relations with the northern half of the Korean peninsula.

Sakamoto, the chief of staff and chief spokesman for Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, currently serves as acting foreign minister in the absence of Taro Nakayama, who is in New York attending the United Nations General Assembly session. Kaifu is also in New York to attend a summit meeting of world leaders on children's welfare.

The Japanese Government will begin studies on improvement of ties with North Korea after Kaifu and Nakayama return home, one senior official said. Kaifu is scheduled to return here on October 9, while Nakayama is due to be back on October 2.

Meanwhile, Hajime Ishii, one of the LDP [Liberal Democratic Party] delegation members, said Saturday that the Japanese mission and North Korea did not agree on Japan's payment of compensation for losses inflicted on Koreans during the postwar 45 years. The joint declaration, signed by representatives of the LDP, JSP [Japan Socialist Party] and KWP [Korean Workers' Party] representatives, said, "The three parties consider that in connection with the establishment of the diplomatic relations, full compensation should be made by the Japanese Government for the past 36-year-long colonial rule and the losses inflicted upon the North Korean people in the ensuing 45 years."

Ishii, the deputy head of the LDP's Research Commission on Foreign Affairs, said the promise in the declaration does not bind intergovernmental ties between Japan and North Korea. The Japanese mission felt responsibility as politicians for the absence of ties with North Korea in the postwar era and bowed to North Korea's demand to mention Japan's compensation for the 45 years, Ishii said.

Ishii was speaking at a NHK-TV forum videotaped on Saturday for broadcasting on Sunday. Also present was JSP Vice Chairman Makoto Tanabe, who as head of a JSP delegation visited North Korea together with Kanemaru and Ishii.

Tanabe said Japan must launch intergovernmental talks with North Korea sincerely. He said that the Japanese Government needs to bear the mission's promise in mind, apart from whether the joint declaration is binding or not. Tanabe said, "Japan should do what it can do as early as possible during the process of normalization talks with North Korea," hinting Japan's economic assistance even before the establishment of diplomatic ties.

While in Pyongyang Kanemaru and Tanabe pledged that Japan will pay full compensation to North Korea when the two countries set up diplomatic relations. The amount and form of compensation, which was not specified in the joint declaration, is subject to negotiations between the two governments. In 1965, the Japanese Government extended 500 million dollars in economic cooperation to South Korea by way of compensation when the two countries established diplomatic ties.

Tanabe said the Korean people both in the North and South earnestly hope for early unification of the divided peninsula and that he is sure that North Korea will promote efforts toward that end.

Tanabe said that North Korea will hand over to Japan on October 2 two Japanese seamen detained since 1983 on espionage charges. Representatives from the LDP and JSP will take delivery of Isamu Beniko and Yoshio Kuriura when they are visiting Pyongyang on that day to attend events marking the 45th anniversary of the Korean Workers' Party, he said.

LDP Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa is expected to attend these events, according to LDP sources.

A senior Foreign Ministry official, who traveled with the LDP-JSP mission, said his ministry has begun preparations to open talks with North Korea.

The Japanese Government will first study in what form Tokyo can provide economic assistance to North Korea, the official said.

North Korea has not abandoned its basic policy of opposing any attempt to perpetuate the division of the Korean peninsula, the official said in a meeting with reporters on condition that he be not identified by name. During talks with Japanese mission members, North Korean officials put stress on Japan's apology for the past and on Japan's payment of compensation, he said.

Pledge 'Does Not Bind'

OW0110080890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0706 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 1 (KYODO)—Chief government spokesman Misoji Sakamoto said Monday Japan will study a pledge by a Japanese parliamentarian mission for compensation to North Korea for its 36-year colonial rule as well as for "losses" over subsequent years, although the pledge does not bind the government.

Vice Foreign Minister Takakazu Kuriyama echoed the government's caution when South Korean Ambassador Yi Won-kyong visited the Foreign Ministry Monday morning. Kuriyama told Yi that the ministry felt uncertain about some points in the pledge and must state Japan's position in negotiations with North Korea, ministry officials said. Yi expressed deep concern about the commitment by the Japanese legislators to compensate for "losses inflicted" on the North Koreans for all postwar years.

The Japanese mission, headed by former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru and Japan Socialist Party [JSP] Vice Chairman Makoto Tanabe, made the commitment in a joint declaration the two signed with the ruling Korea Workers' Party at the end of their five-day visit to North Korea last Friday.

Kanemaru and Tanabe, representing the ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] and the largest opposition JSP, respectively, pledged that Japan will pay "full compensation" for the 1910-1945 colonial rule and the "losses inflicted upon the (North Korean) people in the ensuing 45 years."

Sakamoto, in a press conference, said the pledge was made among the political parties and does not immediately bind the government. He stressed that the Japanese Government owes no legal responsibility to North Korea to compensate for the postwar 45 years. But Sakamoto did not rule out the possibility that Japan will take into account the LDP's position. He said the party based its commitment largely on political considerations and amicable feelings toward North Korea. He also indicated that Japan will take North Korean proposal cautiously before beginning government-level talks in November on normalizing diplomatic relations.

On the question of compensation, Sakamoto said that Japan should "naturally treat (North and South Korea) on an equal basis" and extend North Korea economic cooperation in line with what it did for South Korea.

Kuriyama, meanwhile, told Yi that the Japanese Government must clarify what it can and cannot concur on with its North Korean counterpart in their negotiations, reiterating the ministry's position that it need not pay

North Korea postwar compensation since it has not taken similar steps with South Korea.

Yi expressed South Korea's concern at the possibility that Japan will pay postwar compensation to North Korea, saying such a payment would not be acceptable in the context of Japan-South Korean relations. When Japan normalized diplomatic ties with South Korea in 1965, it extended 500 million dollars in economic cooperation to South Korea by way of compensation over its colonial rule.

Yi also described as disturbing the remarks in the declaration that the three parties recognized that there was "only one Korea," and the fact that Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's letter handed to North Korean President Kim Il-song made clear reference to Kaifu's position as the head of the Japanese Government. Kaifu sent the letter in his capacity as LDP president.

Yi urged Japan to consult with South Korea when it holds governmental negotiations with North Korea in the spirit of the current inter-Korea talks aimed at Korean unification. Kuriyama assured Yi that in studying how Japan will proceed with the North Korean negotiations, it will keep in close touch with Seoul, noting that the issue pertained to an easing of tension in the Korean peninsula and peace and stability in the region.

Ishii, Tanabe Comment

OW3009030990

[Editorial Report] Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese at 0000 GMT on 30 September broadcasts a 30-minute recorded panel discussion entitled "Report From the LDP-JSP [Liberal Democratic Party-Japan Socialist Party] Delegation That Visited the DPRK; the Improvement and Future of Japanese-North Korean Ties." Participating in the discussion are Hajime Ishii of the Liberal Democratic Party, Makoto Tanabe of the Japan Socialist Party, Teruo Komaki, chief of the International Exchange Department of the Institute of Developing Economies, and Hajime Izumi, assistant professor of Shizuoka Prefectural College. The program is moderated by NHK Commentator Korehito Obama.

In response to Obama's question on results of the recent trip to North Korea, Ishii explains the delegation has achieved the purpose of the trip and opened up "a new page in Japanese-DPRK history." He says "an air hole has been drilled in the barrier" between Japan and North Korea.

Noting the delegation was surprised at the unprecedented degree of flexibility in the attitude of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], Tanabe says the visit was very successful. He then stresses the proposal made by the WPK for the establishment of diplomatic ties has created a "turning point."

On the No. 18 Fujisan Maru issue, Ishii explains the Japanese and DPRK sides agreed not to include it in the joint declaration because they felt for sure the two seamen, who have been detained in North Korea, would be returned in the near future. Ishii adds the DPRK side clearly stated "the crewmen would be returned in October."

In response to Obama's request, Tanabe explains the circumstances under which the DPRK side made a proposal to establish diplomatic ties with Japan. Tanabe admits he was rather surprised by the rapid progress at the talks with the WPK. He states the proposal indicates the Pyongyang government is trying to deal with a rapidly changing international situation in a flexible manner.

On the content of the joint declaration regarding the apology and compensation to North Korea for Japan's colonial rule, as well as for losses suffered by the Korean people in the 45 years after World War II, Ishii stresses the joint declaration is not an agreement that will "constrain future government negotiations." He continues by saying the Japanese Government "should promote economic and technological cooperation, if conditions are met," even before both governments agree to establish diplomatic ties.

Kanemaru 'Prepared To Retire' If Criticized

OW0110142390 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1012 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru of the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP], who paid a visit to North Korea, the DPRK, met with LDP Secretary General Ozawa today. He stressed it is only natural the 45 years since the end of the war should be included in Japan's so-called reparations.

At the meeting, Mr. Kanemaru stated reparations originally should have been made to North Korea when Japan normalized its diplomatic relations with the ROK. However, due to certain circumstances, the reparations were not made. While stating he has based his view on the idea that money deposited in a bank earns interest, Mr. Kanemaru stressed reparations should be made for the losses suffered during the 45 postwar years. Moreover, Mr. Kanemaru stated because the talks had gone so far, it was questionable that he could have returned to Japan without taking any actions. He says he is prepared to retire from politics if he is criticized for his decision. While stating the responsibility will fall on one person, Shin Kanemaru, alone, he also stressed he took part in the talks with North Korea in all seriousness while paying sufficient attention to the positions of the United States and the ROK. However, concerning the measures for making reparations, former Deputy Prime Minister Kanemaru stated it should be negotiated between the governments of the two nations.

Concerning the talks between Mr. Kanemaru and Mr. Ozawa, top LDP officials say this evening Mr. Kanemaru is trying to maintain that Japan should clearly admit that no dialogue was held between Japan and North Korea after the war on the issue of Japanese reparations to North Korea and that concerete measures should be negotiated at the governmental level.

South Korean Ambassador to Japan Yi Won-kyong held talks with Vice Foreign Minister Kuriyama at the Foreign Ministry today. Touching on the tripartite declaration signed recently by the LDP, the Japan Socialist Party, and the Workers Party of Korea, he stated: There is one expression in the declaration that concerns one Korea. If this implies the denial of South Korea as a sovereign nation, we must regard it as questionable. Questions also will be raised if Japan apologizes and make reparations for the 45 postwar years, something Japan did not do with regard to the ROK. He asked the Japanese Government to give an official explanation.

Moreover, Ambassador to Japan Yi Won-kyong expressed his hope Japan will consult closely with South Korea when conducting governmental negotiations on normalizing diplomatic relations between Japan and North Korea. In response, Vice Foreign Minister Kuriyama stated this issue will be discussed within the government in the future. He said the government will clearly state to North Korea those points the Japanese Government cannot understand or cannot agree to. He also sought the ROK's understanding by stating the goverment will deal with this issue while maintaining close contact with the ROK.

Nakayama Welcomes ROK-USSR Diplomatic Ties

OW0110000390 Tokyo KYODO in English 2305 GMT 30 Sep 90

[By Shiro Yoneyama]

[Text] New York, Sept. 30 KYODO—South Korea and the Soviet Union announced on Sunday they are immediately establishing diplomatic relations. Analysts said Moscow's decision to immediately open full diplomatic relations with Seoul, three months ahead of the original date of January 1, 1991, could pave the way for South Korea's full UN membership, regardless of any objection by North Korea. The two Koreas currently have only observer status in the 160-nation institution.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze told reporters after signing a joint communique with his South Korean counterpart Choe Ho-chung in the United Nations Building in New York, "We have established diplomatic relations as of today."

A beaming Choe, standing alongside Shevardnadze, said, "I am very much pleased to have this agreement to establish diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Korea, especially on this auspicious day when we are having the summit for children."

At a news conference later, Choe said the joint announcement was the culmination of years of mostly low-key business contacts between the two countries and a historic summit between presidents No Tae-u and Mikhail Gorbachev in San Francisco on June 4 this year. Choe and Shevardnadze said they also agreed on an exchange of visits by the Soviet and South Korean presidents, though no dates have yet been decided.

Choe said the Soviet Union will send an economic mission to Seoul next month which he indicated will seek financial and technological assistance from his country.

The North Korean observer mission to the UN withheld immediate comment on the announcement. The Soviet Union is a longtime ally and a major arms supplier to Pyongyang. Choe said, "Our policy is not to push the North into a corner."

Both Choe and Shevardnadze also emphasized that improved relations between their countries will not lessen efforts by either of them to enhance relations with neighboring countries such as North Korea and Japan.

Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, who is also in New York to attend the UN General Assembly session, said in a statement welcoming the announcement, "We believe this is a proof of dynamic results from President No Tae-u's northern policies."

Analysts said full diplomatic relations between South Korea and the Soviet Union brighten the prospects for a breakthrough in relations between Japan and the Soviet Union, which have been at odds over four Soviet-held islands off Hokkaido.

Shevardnadze told Nakayama on Friday that Gorbachev is prepared to discuss "every problem" between Tokyo and Moscow, including the conclusion of a peace treaty, which has been eluding the two parties because of the territorial dispute.

The United States also welcomed the Seoul-Moscow rapprochement.

The establishment of diplomatic relations between South Korea and the Soviet Union came four days after North Korea made a surprise overture to Japan to begin formal talks on opening diplomatic relations between Pyongyang and Tokyo. Choe, commenting on the Japan-N. Korea dialogue, said, "I think it is good that they are improving their relations. We welcome any improvement in their relations."

The joint communique said in part, "The two sides declare that relations between the Republic of Korea and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics will be based on the principles of mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, noninterference in internal affairs of each other, full equality and mutual benefit in accordance with the UN Charter." It also said, "The two sides are convinced that this step will contribute to enhancing stability and to a peaceful settlement on the Korean peninsula, and proceed from the premise that it will never affect their relations with third countries."

Shevardnadze told reporters that he and Choe "emphasized that our good and friendly relations will not be contrary to the interests of any other country." He also said the Soviet Union, a longtime ally of the communist North, believes that "without the South Korean factor it is difficult to speak about those problems of stability and security in the region."

Choe said his country will encourage the Soviets to have "friendly relations with North Korea and try to persuade them to have their own perestroyka and glasnost so that someday we'll have a peaceful unity."

Japanese and U.S. officials noted that unlike East and West Germany, which have never fought each other, the enmity between North and South Korea runs deep because of their 1950-1953 war, making it extremely difficult, if not impossible, for the two parties to achieve unification without a radical change in the North's thinking.

In another sign of the Soviet Union's new foreign policy under Gorbachev, Shevardnadze told reporters before his talks with Choe that the Soviet Union and Israel have agreed to upgrade their relations to the consular level.

Taro Nakayama To Visit USSR in Mid-Dec

OW2809235490 Tokyo KYODO in English 2323 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Report by Shiro Yoneyama]

[Text] New York, Sept. 28 (KYODO)—Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama will visit the Soviet Union in mid-December to finalize arrangements for Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's historic trip to Tokyo next April, a Japanese official said Friday.

The official said the two countries agreed on the visit when Nakayama met Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in New York, where both have been attending the United Nations General Assembly. The two foreign ministers discussed upcoming bilateral economic and political meetings, and a dispute over four islands off Hokkaido occupied by the Soviets at the end of World War II, the official said. They also discussed the Persian Gulf crisis, and agreed that Tokyo and Moscow should exchange information about developments in the Gulf.

Nakayama told Shevardnadze that Japan expects Gorbachev's visit to produce a breakthrough in bilateral relations, the official said. Nakayama also underlined the need for a "courageous decision" by Moscow to turn over the islands, known as the "northern territories" in Japan. The issue has prevented Tokyo and Moscow from signing a peace treaty since the end of the war.

Shevardnadze responded that Gorbachev is prepared to discuss "every problem between the two countries, including the conclusion of a peace treaty" during his Tokyo trip, the official told reporters, speaking on condition of anonymity. Asked by Nakayama to clarify his remarks in Soviet interviews that Japan is softening its stand on the territorial issue, Shevardnadze said he believes the Japanese have not changed their position. "But I wish they would," a smiling Shevardnadze said, prompting laughter from Nakayama and other Japanese and Soviet officials.

The meeting at the Soviet mission to the U.N. followed Shevardnadze's trip to Tokyo earlier this month. During the meeting, Nakayama said resolution of the territorial issue and the conclusion of a peace treaty are "the most important tasks" between the two countries, and said they should make the next 10 years a productive era to explore the potential of Japan-Soviet relations.

The official said Nakayama proposed late November or early December as a date for the next meeting of the Japan-Soviet peace treaty panel in Tokyo, and Shevardnadze agreed. They agreed to hold trade and economic consultations in Moscow on October 31 and November 1, science and technology cooperation talks in Tokyo on November 19 and 20, and environmental cooperation talks also in Tokyo on November 21 and 22.

The two countries also agreed to hold a cultural exchange meeting in Moscow in late November, the Japanese official said.

Impact of USSR 'New Thinking' 'Insufficient'

OW0110121590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1138 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct 1 (KYODO)—Japan now recognizes that "new thinking" in Soviet foreign policy has had an impact on the Asia-Pacific region, but that it remains "insufficient" in terms of Moscow's relationship with Japan, a top Foreign Ministry official said Monday.

"If you compare our phraseology today with that of a year ago, you will see we have gradually dropped 'have not impacted' in favor of 'have not sufficiently impacted' in contrasting the change (in the Asia-Pacific region) with that in Europe," said the official.

Pointing to Moscow's establishment of diplomatic ties with South Korea on Monday and its policies regarding Cambodia and Mongolia, he said it was no longer possible to say the new foreign policy being pursued under President Mikhail Gorbachev has been void of regional implications. But the impact remains "insufficient" in terms of Japan-Soviet relations, the official said speaking to reporters on condition of anonymity. He was alluding to the continued bilateral territorial dispute over a group of islands taken by the Soviets from Japan at the end of World War II. "It is our hope that ahead of President Gorbachev's visit here, the Soviets will demonstrate change in areas where we see an insufficiency," the official said. Gorbachev is scheduled to visit Japan in mid-April.

Kaifu Speech Urges Tougher Curbs on Weapons

OW2809234790 Tokyo KYODO in English 2334 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] New York, Sept. 28 (KYODO)—Japan's Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu called Friday for tougher restrictions on exports of weapons to help prevent the recurrence of conflicts like the Persian Gulf crisis.

There is a possibility that hostilities based on ideological, ethnic, or religious differences could increase in the post-cold war era, Kaifu said. "Without restricting weapons exports, there can be no new era of peace and stability," he said.

The Japanese Government does not allow the export of weapons, though Japanese-made vehicles and other equipment with both consumer and military applications are known to be used by foreign military forces. Kaifu made the appeal on receiving an honorary law degree from New York University, bestowed on him for his international statesmanship.

Addressing an invited audience of 500, Kaifu indicated staunch support for the continued role by the United States in maintaining international security. "If there is a relative decline in the United States' power, there is no change in the role it plays in the world.

"We still need the presence of the United States as deterrence against incursions in various parts of the world," he said. But other nations should also chip in, making donations commensurate with their abilities, he said.

"In this world of increasing interdependence, it is important that we do not rely on the United States alone to maintain world order," he said. Kaifu said nations that support similar values should boost coordination, with the United Nations as a centerpiece. Nations should maintain the minimum military capability needed for self-defense, he added.

Kaifu pledged Japan would not reemerge as a military power, despite its plan to dispatch unarmed members of its Self-Defense Force abroad to help peace efforts in the Gulf crisis. Japan has also pledged 2 billion dollars in logistical support to multinational forces in the region, and a similar amount to nations hit hard by economic sanctions imposed on Iraq following its August 2 invasion of Kuwait.

Kaifu is in New York to attend a special United Nations summit on the protection of children. He is slated to travel to the Middle East next week on a five-nation tour that had been postponed following the Iraqi invasion.

Takeshita: World Policy Coordination Need Grows

OW0110143490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1359 GMT 01 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 1 KYODO—Former Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and other representatives of the Group of Five (G- 5) leading industrial nations said Tuesday the importance of international policy coordination has risen substantially since the members agreed on the Plaza Accord five years ago.

The Plaza Accord was an agreement made by finance ministers of the then five major industrial economies gathered in New York's Plaza Hotel on September 22, 1985, to affirm their commitment to economic policy coordination.

Takeshita, International Monetary Fund (IMF) Managing Director Michel Camdessus, and former U.S. Federal Reserve Board Vice Chairman Manuel H. Johnson were among those gathered at a symposium held here to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the accord. They expressed their hopes for policy coordination among the Group of Seven (G-7) nations, which has since replaced the G-5, to help nations ward off inflationary pressures and avoid a global recession in the wake of exploding crude oil prices.

"The day we agreed on the Plaza Accord was a historic occasion," Takeshita said during a keynote address preceding the discussion among the participants. "I hope the G-7 will carry even greater significance as we move toward the accord's 10th anniversary," he said.

International coordination, which is now firmly in place, will undoubtedly grow in significance, Camdessus said. The leading industrial nations must not let spiraling crude oil prices ignite inflation, he said. He called for greater policy coordination and urged nations to contain inflationary pressures in the medium term and debtor nations to slash their fiscal deficits.

Former Fed Vice Chairman Johnson said the role of the G-7 is much larger now since it must deal with the global fund shortage created by the economic reforms in Eastern Europe and rocketing oil prices.

Saudi Arabia To Raise Petroleum Gas Prices

OW0110105190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0827 GMT 01 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct 1 (KYODO)—Saudi Arabia notified Japanese petroleum companies Monday that prices of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) for October shipment to Japan will be raised 38 percent from September levels, according to oil industry sources. The price of LPG is linked to that of Arabian light crude oil, which rose 5.7 dollars a barrel in September above August levels, they said.

Under Monday's notice, propane gas for October shipment climbed 63.32 dollars a ton to 229.20 dollars while butane gas jumped 62.45 dollars to 226.06 dollars, the sources said.

Saudi Arabia accounts for about 40 percent of Japan's LPG imports, followed by the United Arab Emirates, which supplies 22 percent.

Mongolia

Gombosuren Requests 'Early Visit' by Kaifu

OW2709002590 Tokyo KYODO in English 2314 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] New York, Sept. 26 KYODO—Mongolian Foreign Minister Tserenpilyn Gombosuren called Wednesday for an early visit to his country by Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu to expand bilateral relations, a Japanese Government spokesman said. Gombosuren issued the request in a meeting with Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, the spokesman said.

Gombosuren also told Nakayama that Mongolian President Punsalmaagiyn Ochirbat will visit Tokyo in November to attend the enthronement ceremony of Emperor Akihito.

The Mongolian foreign minister also requested Japan's continued financial and technological aid to his country which is trying to transform itself into a market economy.

Nakayama told Gombosuren Japan welcomed Mongolia's movement toward democracy, the spokesman said.

Nakayama was also quoted as saying he is looking forward to a frank exchange of views with Gombosuren and 13 foreign ministers from the Asia-Pacific region at an informal dinner Thursday, the spokesman said. U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, and Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach are among the 13 ministers attending the dinner. Nakayama and Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas will co-host the gathering at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel.

Defense Minister Receives PRC Delegation

LD3009105190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0319 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Ulaanbaatar (ADN)—The new Mongolian minister of defense, Shagalyn Jadambaa, has received a delegation in Ulaanbaatar from the PRC Defense Ministry led by Fu Jiaping, head of the Bureau for Foreign Affairs [title as received]. It was the first such meeting in 29 years. The Chinese delegation's visit was an important step in the renewal of the links between the armies of the two countries, Minister Jadambaa stated.

Officials Attend PRC National Day Reception

OW3009114390 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0810 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] On the occasion of the 41st anniversary of the foundation of the People's Republic of China, the staff of Chinese Embassy in Ulaanbaatar has held a reception which was attended by President of Mongolia Punsalmaagiyn Ochirbat, Vice President Gonchigdorj, Prime Minister Byambasuren, First Deputy Foreign Minister Chimid, and other officials, as well as heads of diplomatic missions.

P. Ochirbat Approves Composition of Government

OW0110093790 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] President of Mongolia Punsalmaagiyn Ochirbat has approved the Law on the Structure and Composition of the Mongolian Government. From now on 11 ministries and one state committee will be functioning instead of the previous 20 ministries. The new government is composed of 16 members—the prime minister, three vice premiers, chairman of the state committee and ministries, representing different political parties of Mongolia. Fourteen out of the 16 members have been approved and a discussion of two ministers—those of the Foreign Relations and Finance—was postponed until mid-October because they are on foreign trip currently.

Hural Session Continues; Ministers Appointed

OW3009094490 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0810 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] The ongoing session of the State Small Hural continues discussions of the new membership of the new cabinet of ministers. Some ministers have been already appointed. (Dzardin Batjargal) has been appointed chairman of the old state committee in the government structure which is responsible for control over the state of nature and envinronment. Major General Shagalyn Jadambaa has been appointed defense minister and Dandzagiyn Radnaaragchaa has been appointed minister of agricultre.

New Trade Union Established, Holds Meeting

OW2809151390 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0810 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] A new trade union, the National Free Workers Association, was announced to be set up in Mongolia. At its first meeting, the newly set-up association sharply criticized the Union of Mongolian Writers and its activities. Famous Mongolian historian and theologist (Ardam) said that Mongolian literature, stamped by official ideology, will now be given a chance to develop in the right direction and return to its sources that have been neglected for a long time. [sentence as heard]

North Korea

Closing Events of Japanese Visit Reported

Joint Declaration Hits 'Snag'

OW2809034890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0330 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang, Sept. 28 (KYODO)—Negotiations on a joint declaration between the North Korean ruling party and a Japanese parliamentarian delegation hit a snag over the wording of positions on issues as Japan's compensation for its colonial rule of the Korean peninsula.

Officials from the Korean Workers' Party (KWP), Japan's Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), and the Japan Socialist Party (JSP) spent the night drawing up the joint declaration to conclude a five-day visit to Pyongyang by the Japanese delegation.

Former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru, JSP Vice Chairman Makoto Tanabe, and Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the KWP in charge of international affairs, were initially scheduled to hold a joint press conference on Friday morning after issuing the communique.

The delegation was originally scheduled to leave Pyongyang at 1 P.M. local time (same as Tokyo time) [0400 GMT] but will be delayed until the document can be worked out.

Joint Declaration Signed

SK2809104090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1022 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 28 (KCNA)—A joint declaration of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] and the Japan Socialist Party [JSP] on Korea-Japan relations was published here today.

Follows the full text of the declaration:

Joint declaration of the Workers' Party of Korea,

the Liberal Democratic Party and

the Socialist Party of Japan on Korea-Japan

relations.

Delegations of the LDP and the JSP visited the Democratic People's Republic of Korea from September 24 to 28, 1990.

President Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, received the delegations.

On the occasion, Shin Kanemaru and Makoto Tanabe who were heading the delegations conveyed personal letters of President of the LDP Toshiki Kaifu and chairwoman of the Central Executive Committee of the JSP Takako Doi to President Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

During the visit, a series of joint talks were held between the WPK delegation led by secretary of the party Central Committee Kim Yong-sun, the LDP delegation led by member of the House of Representatives Shin Kanemaru and the JSP delegation led by vice-chairman of the Central Executive Committee Makoto Tanabe.

Considering that to normalize and develop Korea-Japan relations on the basis of the idea of independence, peace and friendship conforms to the interests of the peoples of the two countries and would contribute to peace and prosperity of a new Asia and the world, the delegations of the three parties declare as follows:

1. The three parties consider that Japan should officially apology and fully compensate to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the enormous misfortunes and miseries imposed upon the Korean people for 36 years and the losses inflicted upon the Korean people in the ensuing 45 years after the war.

In his personal letter to President Kim Il-song, President Toshiki Kaifu of the LDP admitted that there was an unfortunate past imposed by Japan upon Korea and expressed the hope to improve the DPRK-Japan relations, saying: "Former prime minister Takeshita expressed deep remorse and regret over such unfortunate past at the Diet in March last year. I, as prime minister, share his view".

Head of the delegation of the LDP Shin Kanemaru, member of the House of Representatives, too, expressed the same apology for the Japan's past colonial rule over the Korean people.

The three parties consider that in connection with the establishment of the diplomatic relations, full compensation should be made by the Japanese Government for the past 36-year-long colonial rule and the losses inflicted upon the DPRK people in the ensuing 45 years.

2. The three parties consider that the abnormal state between the DPRK and Japan must be eliminated and diplomatic relations be established as soon as possible.

3. The three parties consider that, for the improvement of the relations between DPRK and Japan, it is necessary to develop exchanges between them in various domains including politics, economy and culture and, for the present, to use satellite communications and open direct air services between the two countries.

4. The three parties consider that the Koreans in Japan must not be discriminated against, their human rights and all national rights and legal status be respected and the Japanese Government should guarantee them by law. The three parties regard it necessary for the Japanese authorities to remove the entries made in the Japanese passport as regards the DPRK.

5. The three parties consider that Korea is one and that the peaceful reunification through North-South dialogue accords with the national interests of the Korean people.

6. The three parties consider that it is necessary for them to make joint efforts for the building of a peaceful and free Asia and eliminate nuclear threats from all regions on the globe.

7. The three parties agreed to strongly recommend the start of inter-governmental negotiation for the realisation of the establishment of diplomatic relations and the solution of all the outstanding problems within November 1990.

8. The three parties agreed to strengthen party relations and further develop mutual cooperation between the WPK, and the LDP and between the WPK and the JSP in conformity with the desire of the two peoples and in the interest of peace in Asia and the world.

Pyongyang
[Dated] September 28, 1990
[Signed] Kim Yong-sun on behalf of the WPK.
[Signed] Shin Kanemaru on behalf of the LDP
[Signed] Makoto Tanabe on behalf of the JSP

Attendees at Declaration Issuance

SK2809111190 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1046 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 28 (KCNA)—Talks between delegations of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] and the Socialist Party of Japan [JSP] were held at the Mansudae Assembly Hall today.

Present at the talks on the Korean side were Comrade Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the C.C. [Central Committee], WPK, vice-chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly (SPA) and deputy to the SPA, and deputies to the SPA Choe Su-kil, director of a department of the C.C., WPK, Chong Chun-ki, chairman of the Korean Society for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and vice-chairman of the SPA Foreign Affairs Committee, Choe Mun-son, chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the WPK, and Yi Myong-ho, director of the secretariat of the SPA Standing Committee; and An Tong-yun and Kim Yang-kon, deputy directors of departments of the C.C., WPK, Chon Yon-ok, vice-chairwoman of the Korean Society for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, deputies to the SPA Kim Yo-ung, director of the Korean Civil Aviation Company, and Nam Sun-hui, rector of Pyongyang College of Teachers.

Present on the LDP side were head of the delegation Mr. Shin Kanemaru, former deputy prime minister and member of the House of Representatives, deputy heads of the delegation Shinjiro Yamamura, former minister of transport and member of the House of Representatives, and Hikosaburo Okonoki , former minister of construction and member of the House of Representatives; and secretary of the delegation Hajime Ishii, acting president of the Foreign Affairs Research Council of the LDP and member of the House of Representatives; and members of the delegation Yoichi Tani, vice-chairman of the Dietmen's League for the Promotion of Japan-Korea Friendship and member of the House of Representatives, Yukihiko Ikeda, deputy secretary general of the LDP and member of the House of Representatives, Michihiko Kano, deputy secretary general of the LDP and member of the House of Representatives, Satatoshi Ozato, director of the general affairs department of the LDP and member of the House of Representatives, Hiromu Nonaka, chairman of the communications department of the LDP and member of the House of Representatives, Masayoshi Takemura, general secretary of the Society for the Study of Korean Affairs of the Institute of Asian-African Affairs of the LDP and member of the House of Representatives, Toshitsuku Saito, vice-director of the international department of the LDP and member of the House of Representatives, Tomoo Ie, member of the House of Councillors, and Mayumi Moriyama, former chief cabinet secretary and member of the House of Councillors.

Present on the JSP side were head of the delegation Mr. Makoto Tanabe, vice-chairman of the party Central Executive Committee and member of the House of Representatives, deputy head of the delegation Wataru Kubo, vice-chairman of the Party Central Executive Committee and member of the House of Councillors, secretary of the delegation Satao Yamahana, deputy secretary general of the party Central Executive Committee and member of the House of Representatives, Deputy Secretary of the delegation Hajime Fukada, member of the party Central Executive Committee and director of its people's movement department and member of the House of Councillors, and members of the delegation Taneaki Tanami, member of the party Central Executive Committee and director of its information department and member of the House of Representatives, Masakatsu Takigi, member of the Central Executive Committee and director of the organ of the party, and Vice-Chairmen of the party Committee for Measures on the Korean Affairs Takatoshi Fujita and Kogen Nosaka, members of the House of Representatives, and Terumi Kasuya, member of the House of Councillors, and Kinuko Obuchi, deputy secretary general of the party Committee for Measures on the Korean Affairs and member of the House of Councillors.

A joint declaration of the WPK, the LDP and the JSP on Korea-Japan relations was adopted at the end of the talks.

Visiting Delegations Return Home

SK2809154590 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1502 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 28 (KCNA)—The delegation of the Liberal Democratic Party headed by Shin Kanemaru, former deputy prime minister and member of the House of Representatives of Japan, and the delegation of the Japan Socialist Party headed by Makoto Tanabe, vice-chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the party and member of the House of Representatives, left for home today, concluding their five-day visit to Korea.

They were seen off at the airport by Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, vice-chairman of the Foreign Affairs

Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly and deputy to the SPA, and other officials concerned.

Kanemaru, Tanabe Remark in Tokyo

SK3009090190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0808 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 30 (KCNA)—Shin Kanemaru, head of the delegation of the Liberal Democratic Party of Japan, said he pays deepest respect to His Excellency Kim Il-song.

He was speaking at a press conference at Narita Airport on September 28 upon returning home after visiting the DPRK.

"His Excellency Kim Il-song was not a person whom I had imagined," Shin Kanemaru said, and added: "He was a man who had undergone many hardships."

Nothing that a joint declaration of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and the Liberal Democratic Party and the Socialist Party of Japan on the DPRK-Japan relations was adopted, he said this was a result of the efforts of the Japan Socialist Party and the Workers' Party of Korea.

"I was surprised and deeply moved to see that the capital city which was razed to the ground has been rejuvenated splendidly," he said.

Makoto Tanabe, head of the delegation of the Japan Socialist Party, told newsmen that Japan must apologise and compensate to the DPRK for the historical facts that Japan imposed great misfortunes and disasters upon the Korean people in the past.

Turning to the issue of establishing diplomatic relations between Japan and the DPRK, he said: We will inform the government about this matter and we hope the government will immediately accept it and start negotiation as it has promised to respond to the talks without preconditions.

I look back with deep emotions upon the fact that we had established and developed friendly relations with the WPK, which have born a fruit today, Makoto Tanabe added.

JSP Chief Hails Declaration

SK3009091590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0801 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 30 (KCNA)—Takako Doi, chairwoman of the Central Executive Committee of the Japan Socialist Party, hailed the joint declaration of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Liberal Democratic Party and the Socialist Party of Japan on Korea-Japan relations, according to a report from Tokyo.

In a press conference Friday the chairwoman said that from long ago she held it was necessary to apologize and compensate for the past colonial rule and reflect on and rectify the postwar hostile policy toward the North of Korea for true reconciliation and normalisation of Japan-Korea relations.

Saying that she was deeply moved by the fact that an epochal first step was taken Takako Doi stressed: We should urge the government on all problems for the improvement of Japan-Korea relations on the basis of the joint declaration in cooperation with the Liberal Democratic Party and all other political parties.

Koreans in Japan Show Support

SK0110050990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0455 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo September 29 (KNS-KCNA)—The Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) in a statement on September 28 warmly welcomed and supported the joint declaration which came in the wake of talks between delegations of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Liberal Democratic Party and the Japan Socialist Party as a happy event worthy of special record in the history of the DPRK-Japan relations.

The statement said:

Up until now, the Korean citizens in Japan have hoped that the Japanese Government's unfriendly policy toward the DPRK will be rectified and good neighbourly relations of friendship be established between the DPRK and Japan. This hope is now likely to come true. It is, indeed, a stirring event.

The normalization of relations between the two countries is warmly welcomed by broad sections of Japanese people and will be fully supported by the world's honest-minded people as well.

We sincerely hope that the points of agreement in the joint declaration will be smoothly implemented at an early date.

The U.S. administration and the South Korean authorities must refrain from making futile attempts to obstruct the implementation of the points of agreement.

We will make strenuous efforts to ensure that the relations between Korea and Japan are normalized as "close neighbours" and thus amity and friendship between the peoples of the two countries promoted further still.

South Plane Reportedly Attacks Army Post

SK2809153490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1504 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 28 (KCNA)—The South Korean puppets infiltrated a fighter plane into the sky above Nampo-ri in Kaepung County from the lower reaches of the River Yesong at around 10:45 today, which, making an ultra-low-altitude flight, committed a thrice-cursed beastly act by firing hundreds of machinegun bullets at a post of our People's Army and a residential area.

This seriously threatened the lives of our people and People's Army soldiers.

This brigandish criminal act in broad daylight is a deliberate, premeditated act to create artificial obstacles in the way of the North-South dialogue arranged with so much efforts and further key up the tensions on the Korean peninsula.

Our people and People's Army soldiers, angered at this brutality of the South Korean puppets, are now closely following their new war provocation moves with heightened revolutionary vigilance.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets must stop running riot, clearly mindful of grave consequences that may be entailed by such reckless provocations.

North Proposes MAC Meeting

SK2909101890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1015 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 29 (KCNA)—Our side to the Military Armistice Commission [MAC] today suggested to the U.S. side to hold the 458th MAC meeting at 11:00 October 3, 1990 regarding the grave military provocation the enemy committed by illegally infiltrating a fighter plane into the sky above Nampo-ri in Kaepung County, Kaesong municipality, on September 28.

Agreement Reached on N-S Soccer Exchange

SK2909103890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1010 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Beijing September 29 (KCNA)—Sports officials of North and South of Korea participating in the 11th Asian Games had a joint news conference in Beijing today.

The news conference was addressed by Kim Hyong-chin, vice-chairman of the Olympic Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and former head of the delegation to North-South sports talks, and Chang Chung-sik, vice-chairman of the South Korean Olympic Committee and former South side's chief delegate to the North-South sports talks.

Kim Hyong-chin announced that it had been agreed at a contact of North and South sports officials Friday to have men's and women's football games in Pyongyang and Seoul.

According to him, the games will be named North-South reunification football games.

The games in Pyongyang will be held on October 11 and the south side's footballers will arrive in Pyongyang on October 9 and stay there four nights and five days, according to the agreement.

It was agreed upon that they should come to Pyongyang from Beijing by the Korean civil aviation plane and go back through Panmunjom on October 13.

The men' and women's soccer teams of the South side participating in the 11th Asiad will come to Pyongyang.

It was agreed upon that their personal safety should be guaranteed by a statement of the public security minister of the DPRK.

The DPRK soccer teams will go to Seoul on October 21 and have games on the 23rd. They will stay in Seoul four nights and five days.

It was agreed not to attach any insignia to the sports uniforms of the players of the two sides, distinguishing one from another by the color of the uniforms.

Kim Hyong-chin said he thought that the reunification games would be a big event in the achievement of national reconciliation, unity and reunification cause.

PRC Foreign Minister Supports Reunification

SK3009091990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0759 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 30 (KCNA)—China supports DPRK's consistent efforts for independent and peaceful reunification of the country, said Foreign Minister Qian Qichen when he was speaking at the 45th session of the UN General Assembly.

Referring to the North-South High-Level Talks, he expressed the hope that the North and the South of Korea would achieve the peaceful reunification of the country in the long run by dispelling antagonism and misunderstanding through dialogues.

U.S.-ROK 'Criminal Collusion' on Gulf Decried

SK3009092790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0814 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 30 (KCNA)—U.S. President Bush on September 28 sent a letter to No Tae-u and expressed "thanks" to him for the fact that the South Korean authorities had published "measures for comprehensive assistance" concerning the Gulf crisis, according to a report.

This has caused resentment among the South Korean people because it is a criminal collusion between the master and the stooge.

The United States plans to inveigle the South Korean authorities in its armed intervention in the Gulf, and the South Korean authorities are zealously responding. This is proved by the fact that no sooner had the United States forced recently the South Korean authorities to share the burden of "Gulf defense spendings" than the authorities published "measures for comprehensive assistance."

It was shameless of Bush to send a "letter of thanks" to his stooges when loud voices denouncing the criminal collusion between the master and the stooge were ringing out from among the South Korean people.

U.S. Troops, Weapons Must Be Pulled Out

SK2809113390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1010 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 28 (KCNA)—The South Korean authorities must no longer evade the problems of the U.S. troop pullout and disarmament, says NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today.

The article quotes the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as saying:

"For the relaxation of tension and for durable peace, the North and South must adopt a nonaggression declaration guaranteeing that both sides refrain from invading the other, the DPRK and the United States must sign a peace agreement, the armed forces in the North and the South must be reduced drastically and nuclear weapons and foreign troops must be withdrawn from South Korea."

At the first North-South High-Level Talks our side put forward detailed proposals for confidence-building and arms reduction between the North and the South, withdrawal of foreign troops, disarmament and preservation of peace henceforth, and other issues of removing military confrontation between the two halves.

Our proposals include ways of defusing the ever heightening tension and substantially ensuring peace on the Korean peninsula.

The South side also brought forward "the proposal for building up military trust", "the program of arms cuts between the North and the South", etc.

With unilateral stress on the issues of exchange and cooperation, however, the South Korean authorities slighted the problems of disarmament and the elimination of political and military confrontation.

What must not be overlooked is that they completely shunned the problem of the withdrawal of the U.S. forces and nuclear weapons from South Korea that must be solved without fail for the settlement of the reunification question.

This bespeaks that the South side omits the key point in removing the political and military confrontation and easing tension between the North and the South.

If peace is to be ensured in Korea, the U.S. forces and nuclear weapons must be withdrawn from South Korea. They are the biggest obstacles to peace and reunification of Korea.

The U.S. imperialists keep their aggression forces in South Korea not for "defending" someone but for starting another war in Korea with South Korea as the forward base at any cost.

At a time when the desire for reunification is growing in the North and the South and high-level officials are sitting face to face to contribute to solving the questions of peace and reunification of the country, it is anachronistic of the South side to persistently frame plots in glove with the U.S. imperialists against fellow countrymen.

The South Korean authorities must pay attention to the issue of removing political and military confrontation on the Korean peninsula and, to this end, take steps to get all the foreign troops and nuclear weapons out of South Korea.

Buddhist Conference Demands U.S. Troop Pullout

SK2909041590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0403 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 29 (KCNA)—The Eighth Congress of the Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace considers that the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons in South Korea are a threat to peace in Asia and the rest of the world as well as on the Korean peninsula and demands that the United States withdraw its forces and nuclear weapons from South Korea at once.

This was stated in a special resolution on Korea which was adopted at the congress on September 23.

The resolution said that the eighth congress reaffirms its invariable support and solidarity to the Korean buddhists and people in their efforts for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

It hoped that the concrete wall in the area south of the military demarcation line of Korea would be removed as soon as possible and free travel and total opening between buddhists and people in the North and the South of Korea realized for an earlier national reunification.

S. Koreans in Japan Demand Reverend's Release

SK2809103190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0959 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo September 26 (KNS-KCNA)—The Federation of South Koreans in Japan for Democracy and Unification, the South Korean Youth League in Japan and the Japan promotion headquarters for the pan-national rally under the "South Korean Residents Association in Japan" (Mindan) issued a joint statement on September 21, demanding the release of the Reverend Mun Ik-hwan.

The statement expressed resentment at the fact that the South Korean military fascist clique took back to prison Rev. Mun who was allowed to temporarily leave the prison for the funeral of his mother, saying: That this shocking act was committed in the name of power shows that the "government" is an evil one without a shred of morality and justice.

The statement urged an immediate release of Mun Ik-hwan, saying it is utterly unreasonable to keep Rev. Mun under detention at a time when the authorities travel between North and South for talks.

Koreans in Japan Laud Students' Initiative

SK0110045790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0447 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 1 (KCNA)—Independent exchange of students between the North and the South of Korea reflects the intention of the sons of the nation living in the era of division to free the fellow countrymen from the national distress and open a new brilliant history of the country, and it is a patriotic initiative and decisive step which deserves high appraisal.

The Japan promotion headquarters for the pan-national rally, the "Federation of South Koreans in Japan for Democracy and Reunification" and the "South Korean Youth Union in Japan," Koreans organizations under the influence of the "South Korean Residents Association in Japan" (Mindan), stressed this in a statement issued on September 27 denouncing the South Korean authorities for having blocked the working-level contact between students of the North and the South of Korea.

The statement held that the old generations and rulers who have failed to take even a step toward reunification till now when nearly fifty years have passed should repent of their own incompetency and wrongdoing before the country and the nation, modestly accept the determination of students to take the lead in the struggle for reunification and show an attitude of actively cooperating with them.

Nevertheless, the No Tae-u "regime" blocked students affiliated with the "National Council of Student Representatives" (Chondaehyop) of South Korea from meeting with students of the North with a teargas attack, charged the statement, vehemently denouncing this anti-reunification outrage with bitter indignation.

It strongly demanded that the No "regime," a group of anti-reunification elements, immediately stop suppressing the patriotic reunification forces and step down.

Reportage Regarding 41st PRC Anniversary

Anniversary Marked in Chongjin

SK2909042790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0421 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 29 (KCNA)—A film show and reception were given at the Chinese Consulate General in Chongjin Friday on the occasion of the 41st founding anniversary of the People's Republic of China.

Present there on invitation were Kim Yong-yun, chairman of the North Hamgyong Provincial Administration and Economic Guidance Committee, and other officials concerned, and officials of the Soviet Consulate General in Chongjin.

Chinese Consul General Jie Qihua and officials of his Consulate General were present there.

The participants appreciated a Chinese film.

Then followed a reception at which speeches were made.

Committee Hosts Reception

SK3009083790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0812 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 30 (KCNA)—The North Hamgyong Provincial Administration and Economic Guidance Committee hosted a reception Saturday on the occasion of the 41st founding anniversary of the People's Republic of China.

Invited there were Chinese Consul General Jie Qihua and officials of the Consulate General in Chongjin.

Pak Hwa-yong, vice-chairman of the committee, and other officials concerned were present.

The reception took place in a friendly atmosphere, at which speeches were exchanged.

Kim Il-song Sends Greetings

SK3009084090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0823 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 30 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, today sent a message of greetings to Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, Yang Shangkun, president of the People's Republic of China and Wan Li, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of the PRC, on the occasion of the 41st anniversary of the founding of the PRC.

The message extended warmest congratulations to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, the government of the People's Republic of China and the fraternal Chinese people on the occasion of the 41st anniversary of the founding of the PRC.

It said:

The industrious and courageous Chinese people have built a new powerful socialist China in the vast land of China by giving full play to the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and hard struggle, overcoming manifold difficulties over the past 41 years after the founding of the PRC which signified a great turn in the long history of China.

The Chinese people who entered a new stage of development with the 3rd plenary meeting of the 11th Central Committee of the CPC are making a great progress in the struggle to consolidate the stabilized and united political phase, maintain the four cardinal principles, deepen the reforms and opening to the outside world and build socialism with Chinese characteristics under the correct leadership of the CPC with Comrade Jiang Zemin as the hardcore.

The PRC is pursuing a sovereign and independent foreign policy and this is making a great contribution to safeguarding peace in Asia and the rest of the world.

The Korean people rejoice as over their own over the many successes gained by the fraternal Chinese people in socialist construction and the daily rising international prestige of the PRC and express firm solidarity with the party, the Government and people of China in their efforts to achieve the peaceful reunification of the country in accordance with the concept of "one country, two systems".

The Korean and the Chinese people have long since shared life and death, sweets and bitters, linking their destinies as one.

We believe that friendship, solidarity and cooperative relations between our two parties, two countries and two peoples which were sealed in blood in the hard-fought revolutionary struggle will grow stronger in the way of defending and developing peace and the common cause of socialism.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I sincerely wish you and the Chinese people greater success in the struggle to build a socialist state, prosperous, democratic, cultured and modernized.

Editorial Views PRC Founding

SK0110054190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0514 GMT 1 Oct 90

["41st Birthday of PRC"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang October 1 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today dedicates an editorial entitled "Victorious and Glorious Course Covered by Chinese People" to the 41st anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC).

The editorial quotes the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as saying:

"The founding of the People's Republic of China was a great event which opened a new epoch in the long history of the Chinese people."

It continues:

The founding of the PRC enabled the Chinese people to embark on a worthy road of shaping their destiny by their own strength, taking it in their own hands, as the dignified masters of the country for the first time in their history.

The 41 years of the PRC has been a victorious period in which the Chinese people have made the modern history of China shine with creation and innovation.

Today the Chinese people are making strenuous efforts to attain the grand objective of building a modernized socialist power.

They are deepening socialist reform and opening to the outside world and vigorously working to implement the line and policy of their party and government while holding fast to the four cardinal principles.

The brilliant achievements made by them in socialist construction give encouragement to the world's revolutionary people and deal a heavy blow at the international reactionaries who go against the trend of history.

They are striving to reunify the motherland according to the concept of "one country, two systems."

It is because they have kept to the socialist road, pulling through all difficulties and obstacles under the correct leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC) that they have made great achievements in the revolution and construction.

The Korean people are truly happy that the fraternal Chinese people are successfully promoting the building of socialism under the leadership of the CPC with Comrade Jiang Qemin at the core, and express firm solidarity with them in their just cause.

The editorial goes on:

The Korea-China friendship is growing in scope and developing on a solid basis.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song have long since established the firm bonds of Korea-China friendship and strengthened and developed it on the basis of his particular intimacy with the great leader of the Chinese people Comrade Mao Zedong and respected Comrades Zhou Enlai and Deng Xiaoping. The leaders of the two countries have consolidated the foundation of Korea-China friendship and tended the flower garden of friendship more beautifully through frequent visits. The mutual visits and meetings between the party and state leaders of the two countries in recent years marked an important occasion in consolidating and further developing Korea-China friendship.

The Korean people will do their best to consolidate and develop this great friendship generation after generation and fight shoulder to shoulder with the Chinese people to accomplish the common cause of the victory of socialism.

The Korean people are convinced that the friendship, solidarity and cooperation between our two parties, two countries and two peoples will grow stronger and develop in the interest of the revolutionary development in the two countries and the cause of peace in Asia and the rest of the world.

The Korean people sincerely wish the fraternal Chinese people greater success in the future efforts to build socialism with Chinese characteristics and promote the peaceful reunification of the motherland under the leadership of the CPC while holding fast to the four cardinal principles.

Red Flag Movement Meeting Closes 29 Sep

SK2909104290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1016 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 29 (KCNA)—The meeting of frontrankers of the Three-Revolution Red Flag Movement within the Korean People's Army ended today.

Speeches were made today.

The history of the mass movement within the People's Army is a history of shining victory of the chuche-based idea and policy of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and our party over the mass movements, stressed the speakers, referring to the wise guidance of the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il to the mass movements.

Pointing out that the Three-Revolution Red Flag Movement within the People's Army has turned into a work of the soldier masses themselves with its powerful progress and miracles and innovations have been brought about in human and technical transformation and in cultural construction, they reviewed the successes and experiences gained in this course.

They stressed the need to intensify this movement in all sectors and units of the People's Army under the militant slogan "let the whole army become standard-bearers of three revolutions!," develop it in depth onto a new height and thus enable all the soldiers to discharge their revolutionary duties as an army of the leader, an army of the party.

A congratulatory message addressed to the meeting was read out by a congratulatory group of the Mangyongdae revolutionary school at the meeting.

A letter of pledge was adopted there.

South Korea

Seoul Reports Normalizing Relations With USSR

SK0110013190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0106 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] New York, Sept. 30 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the Soviet Union opened a new chapter of history Sunday by normalizing relations.

In a meeting at U.N. Headquarters, the foreign ministers of the long-time adversaries signed a joint communique in which they agreed to exchange resident embassies at the earliest possible date.

"The two nations will develop their relations in accordance with the U.N. charter based on the principles of mutual respect for sovereignty, preservation of territories, non-interference in internal problems, and complete equality and reciprocity," the five-point communique said.

The signing at 12:15 p.m. followed a 35-minute meeting between foreign ministers Choe Ho-chung of South Korea and Eduard Shevardnadze of the Soviet Union in a U.N. Security Council conference room.

"The two nations firmly believe that this measure will contribute to promoting security on the Korean Peninsula and to the settlement of peace in that part of the world without affecting each other's relations with other nations," it said.

The two sides began to talk about normalizing ties amid the warming of East-West relations after the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul and the sweeping changes in the Soviet Union brought about by President Mikhail Gorbachev's "perestroyka" and "glasnost."

Gorbachev and Korean President No Tae-u met in San Francisco on June 4 and agreed to normalize relations between their two countries in the near future. The historic summit strained Moscow's ties with Pyongyang, with which it had been a staunch ally since the division of the Korean peninsula into South and North at the end of World War II in 1945.

Sunday's agreement between Seoul and Moscow is likely to further aggravate relations between Pyongyang and Moscow, diplomatic analysts here say, and put pressure on one of the world's most closed regimes to open up.

Meeting reporters after the signing, Choe said he and Shevardnadze had agreed to make joint efforts to realize exchange visits by No and Gorbachev "in the near future."

The two ministers discussed Korea's membership of the United Nations but failed to reach agreement, Choe's spokesman said. Choe said South Korea should be given a U.N. seat based on the U.N. principle of universality of membership, and called for Soviet efforts to persuade North Korea to accept separate U.N. membership, but Shevardnadze said the Seoul-Moscow agreement to establish diplomatic ties would contribute to inter-Korean dialogue and the "artificial" division of the Korean peninsula would come to an end, the spokesman said.

The two ministers did not take up the subject of economic cooperation, Korean officials said. It was earlier reported in Seoul that the Korean Government would provide 2.3 billion U.S. dollars in loans to the Soviet Union.

The meeting was also attended on the Korean side by Amb. Hyon Hong-chu, chief of the South Korean observer mission to the United Nations: Kong No-myong, chief of the South Korean Consular Department in Moscow and four other officials. On the Soviet side were Ambassador to the United Nations Yuliy Vorontsov: Vice Foreign Minister for International Affairs Vladimir Petrovskiy and four others.

Choe spoke in English while Shevardnadze used Russian. A Soviet translated Shevardnadze's words into English for Choe.

Unofficial Communique Translation

SK0110015390 Seoul YONHAP in English 0142 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] New York, Sept. 30 (OANA-YONHAP)—Following is an unofficial translation of the text of the South korean-Soviet joint communique on the normalization of relations between the two countries issued Sept. 30.

"The Republic of Korea and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics have decided to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level on Sept. 30, 1990, in the hope of developing friendly relations and cooperation in various fields between the two sides."

"The Republic of Korea and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics declare that relations between the two nations will be based on the principles of mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, full equality and mutual benefit in accordance with the U.N. Charter."

"The two nations are convinced that this step will contribute to promoting security on the Korean peninsula and to the settlement of peace in that part of the world without affecting each other's relations with other nations."

"The two nations will exchange diplomatic missions as soon as possible after diplomatic relations are established. The two nations will establish diplomatic missions in the other's capital city, and provide necessary assistance to the other mission performing its function in accordance with the 1961 Vienna pact on diplomatic relations."

"The two nations had this communique written in two copies in Korean and Russian each on Sept. 30, 1990. The two documents are equally genuine and real."

Choe, Shevardnadze Comment

SK0110025190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0226 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] New York, Sept. 30 (YONHAP)—Following is an unofficial translation of questions and answers in a joint press conference given by South Korean Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze after signing an agreement on diplomatic ties Sunday:

Question: When did you decide to set up diplomatic relations?

Shevardnadze: We decided to establish diplomatic relations effective as of today.

Q: Are there any plans for President Mikhail Gorbachev to visit South Korea or for President No Tae-u to visit the Soviet Union?

Shevardnadze: There will be mutual high-level visits, including a summit, but the dates will be decided by the presidents. During today's meeting, I invited Minister Choe to visit the Soviet Union and minister Choe invited me to visit Korea. During our mutual visits, we will discuss the exchange of visits by the presidents.

Q: Do you think today's meeting is an important turning point in relations between the two countries?

Shevardnadze: Needless to say, we discussed the question of Asia-Pacific security and stability and agreed that it is indeed difficult to get a solution to the question unless South Korea takes part in the discussions about security and stability in this region.

We also discussed mutual problems and agreed strongly that South Korea-Soviet amity will not adversely affect the interests of other countries. We shared the view that the friendship of our two countries will neither cause any clash between the interests of our two peoples nor those among other peoples.

Q: What is your impression of today's signing, Minister Choe?

Choe: I am extremely happy that our two countries signed an agreement on diplomatic ties on a special day like today, when an international summit meeting took place on children's rights. We will make every effort for the close development of our two nations, because it will not only benefit our countries but will contribute to the peace and security on the Korean peninsula, Asia and the rest of the world.

Q: What is your comment on the improvement of ties between North Korea and Japan?

Shevardnadze: It is good to improve ties. We welcome all forms of efforts to promote friendship.

Choe: As our government has already made clear in the July 7 declaration, we are resolved to end the era of confrontation and hatred and open a new era of cooperation and reconciliation. We earnestly hope North Korea will change its policy toward opening and reform and that the change will lead to peaceful settlement of the Korean question.

Shevardnadze: I would like to add some points. We and North Korea are on special terms, which have grown during the past several decades on the basis of alliance, friendship and good-neighbor relations. I am confident that our ties will further develop based on friendship and good-neighbor relations. In this regard, no change is taking place between our nations.

Q: What do you think about Korean unification?

Shevardnadze: I think it is a noble and logical process.

Choe Announces Summit Plans

SK0110023490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0228 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] New York, Oct. 1 (YONHAP)—South Korean Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung, announcing the normalization of relations with the Soviet Union Sunday said, "I'm very pleased to see our northern politics reach another turning point."

In a news conference for Korean journalists after he and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze had signed the protocol on normalization of relations between the two countries, Choe said, "I cannot but pay respect to President No Tae-u for his strong will in pushing for northern politics.

"Once Seoul-Moscow ties are officially established, I'll do my best to arrange a Korean-Soviet summit at the earliest time possible. I'd like to share the delight of my diplomatic achievement with the Korean people."

Parties Welcome New Ties

SK0110071190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0701 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 1 (YONHAP)—Ruling and opposition parties welcomed normalization of Seoul-Moscow relations Monday and expressed hope that an improvement in inter-Korean relations will follow, leading to national unification.

The ruling Democratic Liberal Party said it was of great significance as Moscow and Seoul have not had diplomatic ties since relations between Imperial Russia and Yi Dynasty Korea were severed nearly a century ago by Japan. The party said in a statement that it expects normalization to make a great contribution to the economic development and mutual prosperity of both nations.

Kim Tae-chung's Party for Peace and Democracy also welcomed the establishment of Seoul-Moscow relations and said it hopes they will lead to peace on the Korean peninsula and in Northeast Asia. South and North Korea should not misuse improvements in their relations with the Soviet Union and Japan, respectively, to isolate each other, it said. Kim's party also expressed its hope that the halves of Korea would both have diplomatic ties with the United States, Japan, China and the Soviet Union, calling for serious discussion of the matter in the inter-Korean prime ministers' meeting on Oct. 16-19 in Pyongyang.

Ruling party Executive Chairman Kim Yong-sam, who visited Moscow in March, told reporters that normalization was an epoch-making milestone in Korean diplomatic history in this century. He said it would contribute to the formation of a new order in Northeast Asia and peace on the Korean peninsula.

Japan Welcomes Announcement

SK0110051790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0451 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] New York, Sept. 30 (YONHAP)—Japan and the United States welcomed the normalization of diplomatic ties between South Korea and the Soviet Union Sunday. "We welcome the establishment of diplomatic relations between South Korea and the Soviet Union," said Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, in New York to attend the United Nations.

"I think Japan also needs to keep in closer contact with related nations to contribute to peace and stability in Northeast Asia, including the Korean peninsula," he said.

In Washington, D.C., a State Department official voiced welcome for the step, saying the United States had long been encouraging the Soviet Union and China to expand their contacts with South Korea. The U.S. position has been one that promotes Moscow and Beijing to expand their contacts with Seoul, the official said.

Japan's Moves With DPRK Closely Examined

SK2909080090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0714 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Report by Hong Sang-po]

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 29 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea is closely examining the sudden shift in relations between North Korea and Japan to determine the impact on inter-Korean relations, while cautioning Japan that developments should contribute to improving the situation on the Korean peninsula, a government source said Saturday.

The South Korean Government has made it clear that it does not oppose an improvement in Pyongyang-Tokyo ties under the spirit of President No Tae-u's July 7, 1988, declaration. No said then he would help the North improve relations with Seoul's allies, such as the United States and Japan, as part of efforts to reduce tension and ensure peace on the divided Korean peninsula. But the government did not hesitate to express concerns that Japan might pursue double-edged diplomacy on the Korean peninsula to further its political and economic interests.

The main concern is what impact improving Tokyo-Pyongyang ties will have on the peninsula, what Japan really hopes to gain with its policy toward the peninsula and whether the South can take advantage of the change in its efforts to induce reform in the North and open up the North for unification of the divided country, analysts here said.

A Foreign Ministry statement issued Friday said South Korea viewed the abrupt change in North Korea's policy as basically confirming the spirit of the July 7 declaration, but that it believed it was necessary to carefully examine whether the North had actually changed its basic stance on the South.

A high-level Japanese delegation of ruling and socialist party members and North Korean party members agreed Friday to normalize Pyongyang-Tokyo ties as soon as possible and begin negotiations in November on the process, according to a joint statement. The statement also said the two sides agreed that Japan should compensate North Korea for 35 years of colonial rule and should officially apologize. Seoul clearly warned Tokyo of an apparent reversal in its policy of virtually recognizing South Korea as the sole legitimate government on the peninsula.

A high-ranking Foreign Ministry official, commenting on the eight-point statement issued in Pyongyang, expressed a deep concern, especially over the words "Choson is one." Choson is the official name of North Korea and the phrase is a core part of North Korean policy concerning the division. Southern officials say the North's one-Korea policy aims at denying the South Korean Government and thus communizing South Korea. "The shared view that Korea is one can be regarded as Japan's recognition of North Korean unification policy," said the official, adding that it could endanger the base of Seoul-Tokyo relations.

He said Seoul will ask Tokyo to explain the phrase, and if it means Japan's recognition of a comprehensive North Korean policy line it could have a severe impact on Seoul-Tokyo relations.

As for North Korea, the agreements on improving ties may be an indication of a major shift in its stand on Korean division as it had balked at diplomatic ties with Japan on the ground that it would perpetuate the division and endanger unification. Assessments here are mixed over whether the North's unexpected gesture of rapprochement may mean the end of its objection to recognizing the existence of two states on the Korean peninsula.

Some analysts in Seoul see the North's move not as a sign of change in its basic policy but as the pursuit of a combination of political and economic interests as well as the result of its relations with the South.

As for South Korea, it worries that the North may play the Japan card in escaping isolation in international society and seek to induce Japanese economic cooperation to revive its ailing economy by settling the compensation issue in return for accepting the yearning of the Japanese for improving relations with Pyongyang, the analysts say. North Korea is the only nation Japanese wealth has not reached so far.

The South sees the North's goal as well as Japan's quick response as having an adverse impact on the South's move to promote exchanges in various fields, the analysts say.

Presently, the North is showing unprecedented flexibility in its relations with the South, as was seen in the talks between the prime ministers and the agreement on goodwill matches of soccer teams from both halves of Korea. But the South doubts whether the North really wants to promote relations with the South, although its key allies, the Soviet Union and China, apparently pressed Pyongyang to improve ties with the South, according to the analysts.

The North may slow its pace toward exchanges, especially in economy and personnel, if it actively engages in exchanges with Japan, although it will have to respond to the South's move in the long run, according to the analysts.

Seoul also is concerned that Japan, a country Koreans have a historical hatred for because of its colonial rule and frequent invasions, may adopt the so-called equidistant diplomacy and use the Korean division to further its political, strategic and economic interests armed with its wealth, the analysts said. Japan may try to raise its status as regional political power while seeking to settle pending bilateral issues, including the release of two Japanese seamen detained by the North.

The two sailors, whose detention has been a major stumbling block to improving bilateral ties, were arrested in November 1983 after a North Korean soldier, Min Hong-ku, reached Japan by stowing away on their ship, the freighter No. 18 Fujisan Maru, when it called at a North Korean port.

Explanation Wanted for Declaration

OW2909095690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0937 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 29 KYODO—The South Korean Government will ask the Japanese Government for its official explanation about the joint declaration issued Friday by the Liberal Democratic Party and the Japan Socialist Party of Japan, and the Korea Workers' Party of North Korea, government sources said Saturday.

The declaration called for early establishment of bilateral relations and Japan's apology and compensation to North Korea for the damage it caused the Korean people in the past.

The Seoul government wanted to know whether Japan has accepted unilateral claims of the Pyongyang side in issuing the declaration, the sources said. The government instructed its ambassador in Japan, Yi Won-kyong, Friday night to confirm the contents of the declaration and ask for the Japanese Government's official explanation, the sources said.

South Korea is particularly concerned about the passage in the declaration referring to "Korea is one" and the use of premier's title by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu in his personal letter to North Korean President Kim Il-song though the two countries have no diplomatic relations, the sources said. It also shows concern about the declaration touching on Japan's apology and compensation to North Korea for the losses inflicted upon the Korean people in the 45 years after World War II, a matter which South Korea said it has not discussed with Japan in the past, they said.

A high-ranking South Korean Foreign Ministry official said the expression "Korea is one" symbolizes North Korea's stance toward South Korea which denies the reality of Seoul and this may endanger foundation of friendly relations between Seoul and Tokyo. Meanwhile in New York, South Korean Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung said he was informed of the declaration by

Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama by phone. He described as completely unexpected the three-party agreement on early establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and North Korea.

In an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE, however, Choe was noncommittal on the possible effect of the delaration on South Korea's policy-making. He said Pyongyang's motives are not clear.

Official Comments on Declaration

SK2909224090 Seoul YONHAP in English 1513 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 29 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government on Saturday decided to demand Japan officially explain Friday's joint declaration between North Korea and a visiting Japanese ruling party delegation, after judging the context contradicts the Seoul-Tokyo basic treaty and normal diplomatic practices, a high-ranking Foreign Ministry official said.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said his government plans to take some grave diplomatic measures unless Japan gives reasonable answers. Korean Ambassador to Japan Yi Won-kyong will deliver Seoul's official message to the Japanese Government on Monday, he said.

He also said South Korea will readjust its official stance during the second round of South and North Korean prime ministers talks slated for Oct. 16-19, making a careful study of the Pyongyang-Tokyo agreements between political parties and possible changes in North Korea's attitude.

He said Seoul is strongly calling for Tokyo's clear explanation because it is remarkable that Japan is apparently accommodating Pyongyang's unification policy under the motto of "Chosun (Korea) is one," which can imply the unification of Korea even by force. The eight-point joint declaration insists that the Japanese Government apologize to the North Korean Government for a 35-year colonial rule earlier this century and compensate for "the losses inflicted upon the Korean people."

Seoul is charging Tokyo neglected their promise to closely consult with Seoul before the Japanese Government decides on any measures to improve ties with Pyongyang. It will have very negative effects if Japan breaks its pledge, changing its policy toward Korea unilaterally, the official said.

North Apparently Changed 'Two Koreas' Policy

SK3009120590 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 30 Sep 90 p 1

[Text] On 29 September it was learned that North Korea, while proposing to former Japanese Vice Prime Minister Kanemaru and his company the establishment of diplomatic relations between North Korea and Japan, made it clear that despite the words "one Korea [Choson]" in a joint declaration, the proposed negotiations over the establishment of diplomatic relations indicate a change in North Korea's basic policy of "opposing two Koreas."

Based on this fact, the government has decided to strongly urge North Korea in the future South-North talks—including those between their prime ministers—to promote exchange and cooperation and reunification with the South by radically revising its current reunification policy, which is based on its opposition to "two Koreas," and by recognizing the existence of two Koreas on the peninsula.

In this context, the government will make clear its position that, because North Korea has changed its policy of opposing "two Koreas," it has no justification to oppose the South's unilateral admission into the United Nations. The government is expected to make this statement on 5 October in Panmunjom during talks between high-ranking working delegates of the South and North on the UN issue.

A Foreign Ministry official said: "The Japanese authorities informed our government that while discussing with former Japanese Vice Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru issues concerning the establishment of diplomatic relations with Japan, Kim Yong-sun, director of the North Korean Workers' Party international department, acknowleged that North Korea's proposal for establishing diplomatic relations with Japan represents a change in its policy of opposing "two Koreas."

The official continued: "Kim is reported to have cited the changing international situation as one reason for such a change in North Korea's policy of opposing "two Koreas," and explained that North Korea considers it necessary to normalize formal relations with Japan to receive its compensation and economic cooperation. I understand that a North Korean diplomat also had assured a Japanese Foreign Ministry official that this means an overall change in North Korea's policy."

The Foreign Ministry official emphasized: "Since some North Korean authorities have made it clear North Korea has changed its existing policy, the upcoming South-North talks also should be conducted based on such a policy change."

The government, meanwhile, plans to ask the Japanese Government to explain why it agreed to use the words "Korea [Choson] is one" in an eight-point joint declaration signed between North Korea's Workers' Party and Japan's Liberal Democratic Party and Japan Socialist Party and to include the 45 years since the end of World War II in a compensation program.

Vice Foreign Minister on UN Issue, DPRK

SK3009004590 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 30 Sep 90 p 1

[Text] South Korea will apply for the membership of the United Nations as early as the on-going UN General Assembly session, if North Korea's long-held strategy to put the South under its control by armed forces remains unchanged despite its rapid appeasement with Japan, Vice Foreign Minister Yu Chong-ha said yesterday.

"We will get the UN membership next year, otherwise by 1992 at the latest. But there is high possibility of our joining the world body during the current Assembly meeting," he told reporters. Seoul will sound out whether Pyongyang has changed its position on inter-Korean dialogue and its viewpoint on the capitalist South in the second round of meetings of delegates to South and North Korean prime ministers' talks at the border village of Panmunjom Friday, devoted to the UN issue. It will also confirm the shift in stance, if any, towards the premiers' talks, scheduled for Oct. 16-19 in Pyongyang, he said.

"North Korean Foreign Ministry officials assured a Japanese Foreign Ministry official who accompanied the ruling and opposition party mission to Pyongyang last week of a change of Pyongyang's isolation policy. We also heard it from foreign diplomats to which our diplomats have access," he said. "But we cannot rule out the probability of Pyongyang's adherence to the old plot to communize the South by proletariat revolution in its reunification front' strategy... If it proves unchanged, there is no reason to delay our bid to get the UN seat," said Yu.

As to the feasibility of Seoul's admission to the UN, he foresaw that both the Soviet Union and China would not veto its application. Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze formally informed the North of its plan to establish full ties with Seoul during his visit to Pyongyang early this year. China did not give a firm commitment to its veto when North Korean leader Kim Il-song met Chinese Communist Party general Secretary Jiang Zemin in Shenyang in the middle of this month. Vice Minister Yu said, quoting Seoul's diplomatic sources from Eastern European countries.

N-S Expected To Accelerate Cross Recognition

SK3009103390 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 28 Sep 90 p 1

[Text] At a time when Korea and the Soviet Union are certain to sign—during a 30 September meeting between their foreign ministers—an agreement establishing diplomatic relations, North Korea on 27 September proposed to former Japanese Vice Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru negotiations with Japan on improving bilateral relations during his visit to Pyongyang. With both the Japanese Government and our government rating it as a positive development in the situation, cross recognition of the South and North, which North Korea has objected to up until now, is likely to be accelerated.

In particular, North Korea certainly will have no justification to oppose the establishment of diplomatic relations between our government and China once Japan and North Korea start negotiations for establishing diplomatic relations. As a result, following the establishment of diplomatic relations between Korea and the Soviet Union, negotiations between our country and China for normalizing the formal relations are expected to become brisk.

The government, however, insists that Japan closely consult it in the course of trying to improve relations with North Korea, believing that Japan is not pursing peace on the Korean peninsula so much as its own national interest with this move.

On 28 September a Foreign Ministry official, commenting on North Korea's proposal to Japan on negotiations for normalizing the bilateral relations between them, rated it as a positive development, saying: "The sudden shift in North Korea's policy can remove the distrust and confrontation between the South and North, and it also can be viewed as a response to the 7 July declaration."

In the commentary the Foreign Ministry official said: "We find it necessary to carefully scrutinize whether North Korea has changed its basic stance on the South."

He continued: "Our government will respond to this after consulting closely with Japan. Our government calls on our neighbors, including Japan, to actively cooperate with us in our effort to make South-North talks substantial and fruitful and to preserve peace on the Korean peninsula."

The commentary added: "We believe it pressing for North Korea to sign the nuclear safeguards accord with the International Atomic Energy Agency so it can become a responsible member of the international community. Japan should give appropriate thought to this in its relations with North Korea."

Touching on the prospect of North Korea improving its relations with the United States and Japan, a diplomatic source predicted North Korea will quicken promotion of its relations with the United States and Japan, saying "a high-ranking North Korean figure is reported to have said recently that with South Korea and the Soviet Union establishing diplomatic relations, there is practically nothing left in relations between North Korea and the Soviet Union, and confirmed North Korea finds it necessary to improve its relations with the United States and Japan based on the prospect of improved South Korean-Soviet relations."

Pilot May Have Attempted Defection to North

SK2909000190 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 29 Sep 90 p 3

[Text] A light plane, owned by a subsidiary of the Hyundai Business Group, made an emergency landing at Kimpo airport yesterday after it was fired on as it was flying close to the Demilitarized Zone, the Defense Ministry said yesterday.

The plane received 10 hits, including two on the right wing and one in the landing gear, officials said. But the pilot, Song Chae-son, was not injured, they said. No other person was aboard the plane, they added. Song, 55, is under investigation by the Agency for National Security Planning to determine whether he attempted to defect to Communist North Korea, the officials said.

The ministry's announcement said the plane was "flying close to the Demitarized Zone (DMZ) at the northern end of Kanghwa Island off the west coast. It made an emergency landing at Kimpo airport after heeding warning broadcasts from the Air Force." The ministry said the Air Force scrambled four F-5 fighters to guide the light plane.

Ministry officials quoted South Korean Marines as saying that they heard about 200 rounds of gunfire, probably coming from the northern side of the border, about the time the incident took place. The Marines heard an aircraft overhead and fired one warning flare to guide it southward, the officials said. The ministry failed to say that the plane was fired on. Kim airport sources said it was fired on by South Koreans.

The plane left an airstrip in Sosan on the west coast around 9:40 a.m. yesterday and was on its way to Kimpo, the ministry said. It came to Kimpo at 11:08 a.m. The plane has been used to spray pesticides over farms owned by the Hyundai Group's Koryo Industrial Development Co. "It was learned that while going to Kimpo, the plane was on an incorrect flying course after its communications went dead," the announcement said. [A photo accompanying this report shows a light plane on the airstrip with a circle on its body indicating where it was hit]

Daily Claims Gulf Support Request Beyond Means

SK3009120090 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 24 Sep 90 p 3

[Editorial: "Persian Gulf Support Exceeds Our Ability"]

[Text] Sources say the government will announce that it has finally decided to contribute $220 million to help defray expenses associated with the Mideast crisis. We are concerned, in the first instance, about the basis for determining the amount, and in view of Korea's economic situation, we further wonder whether $220 million may not be an unreasonably high figure.

Although the United States requested $350 million from our government for expense sharing some time ago, it has been revealed that the original amount was adjusted downward significantly after a painful process of persuasion and diplomatic compromise.

We have, however, a number of reasons of our own for not responding willingly to the American request. We are burdened with about $200 million in annual expenses to support the upkeep of U.S. forces in Korea, for one thing. Our exports are crawling along at a snail's pace, and when the deleterious results of the Uruguay Round are factored in, the Korean economy faces deep difficulties. We have now suffered serious flood damage, and in our present economic condition it is estimated that the $220 million simply exceeds our ability to pay.

Thus, we have no alternative but to express our regret over the government's decision in this matter. Of course, the government's decision to share in the Gulf expenses has a logic and background that we cannot characterize as completely unreasonable.

We must recognize that in a situation where we import about 75 percent of our total oil needs from the Mideast, a swift solution to the situation in the Persian Gulf would contribute to our economic stability. And we must recognize, therefore, that we cannot ignore our role as a nation whose interests lie in an early solution to the problems in the Gulf.

Should the situation in the Mideast develop in such a way that force is tolerated as a solution to a regional conflict, we are concerned that the precedent may be exceptionally harmful to the future security environment on the Korean peninsula. At the same time, however, we find the expense-sharing somewhat convincing if the Gulf situation foreshadows automatic, unified assistance in a similar way from the international community to us in the event that a military clash were to break out on the Korean peninsula.

According to a source knowledgeable in diplomacy and intelligence, however, the American demand for expense sharing is not over. The word is that the United States hopes Korea will send rear-area support forces to the Mideast, including a medical team. We can never respond positively to the calls from certain corners of the U.S. Congress demanding that we send fighting units to the Mideast.

For that reason we must be alert to the government's review of the request for a medical team. Our initial involvement in the Vietnam war in the 1960s started with the dispatch of the Dove unit, which was composed of non-combat personnel. Before it was over, we had ended up sending large-scale combat forces to Vietnam. This is a fact that remains fixed vividly in our minds.

Although it might be acceptable to send a medical team composed completely of civilian health-care providers, in view of the fact that the area of operations is a combat zone, it cannot be guaranteed that draftees and soldiers will not be included on the team. Nobody can assert that once our non-combatant troops are on site that the dispatch of active-duty fighting soldiers will not follow like a mountain avalanche. Our national strength will be taxed with a burden that exceeds our reach even if we do nothing more than share the expenses. It is crucial that the government announcement be firm and credible.

Chinese Official Cited on Trade Office Exchange

SK2909140090 Seoul YONHAP in English 1349 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 29 (YONHAP)—South Korea and China will agree in mid-October to exchange trade offices in each other's capitals, Seoul's leading vernacular daily CHOSON ILBO reported in its Sunday morning edition.

Quoting an authoritative Chinese source, CHOSON said in a dispatch from Beijing that China and South Korea will conclude negotiations on how to open trade offices in the other country around Oct. 16, when Seoul is represented at a meeting of trade organization chiefs from Asia-Pacific nations to be held in the Chinese capital.

According to CHOSON, Zheng Hongye, chairman of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (China Chamber of International Commerce), told Korean reporters on Saturday that the two countries have already agreed in principle on the matter and that China is considering giving the trade office consular functions. Greeting reporters at his reception room, Zheng said it will not be so significant to open an office with simple trade functions now that exchanges of personnel and other materials as well as bilateral trade are being rapidly expanded.

Zheng was quoted as saying Chinese officials will negotiate finishing touches on exchanges of trade offices with Yi Sun-ki, president of the Korea Trade Promotion Corp., who will visit Beijing to attend the scheduled Asia-Pacific trade body chiefs conference. The mid-October negotiations will be concerned with official direct trade between the two countries and other related technical problems, CHOSON said quoting Zheng. China, North Korea's longtime ally, has no official diplomatic relations with South Korea.

Zheng also said that although he cannot be in a position to tell exactly when the two nations open trade offices in the other's capital but that they are expected to be exchanged at any moment if some differences are to be solved. If South Korea wants to, Zheng said, China is willing to consider allowing Seoul to establish trade offices in other areas, such as Shantung and Liaodong peninsulas geographically nearer to Korea, than Beijing, too.

Beijing's Use of Name 'South Korea' Protested

SK3009010990 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 30 Sep 90 p 8

[Text] Beijing—The Korean Olympic Committee Friday officially protested to the Beijing Asian Games Organizing Committee [BAGOC] and the Chinese mass media against the wrong inscription of the name Korea, and strongly demanded a correction.

The BAGOC and the Chinese press, including the Xinhwa News Agency and the CCTV [China Central Television], often inscribed the country's name as "South Korea" instead of the official name, "Korea," which has been used since Seoul joined the International Olympic Committee in 1947.

42d Armed Forces Anniversary Speeches Reported

Defense Minister Comments

SK3009004990 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 30 Sep 90 p 9

[Text] The Korean military observes it's 42nd anniversary tomorrow with the activation of the new Joint Chiefs of Staff [JCS]. The new JCS, a unified military command, whose inauguration could be recorded as a greatest change in the Korean Armed Forces history, could become a very powerful military group.

The chairman of the JCS will exercise operational control over the three branches of the Armed Forces. The role of the JCS chairman is quite different from his previous role in which he had only acted as an advisor to the minister of national defense with regard to antiespionage activities. Chiefs of the three services will continue to control such matters as budgeting and munitions and personnel changes. They will not lose their operational authority over their own forces.

Defense Minister Yi Sang-hun has said the unified command is "absolutely necessary," taking into consideration the concept of "modern war," which calls for speed as well as economical defense spending. "I expect about 40 percent of the staff in the three military branch headquarters will be curtailed, and they could then assume other important assignments," Yi has said. He also says the military restructuring was well timed, considering that the U.S. armed forces in Korea plan to transfer operational authority to the Korean military by 1992.

The Korean armed Forces also witnessed an important switchover this year—a climate for arms control on the Korean peninsula. The mood which could wash away decades-old hostilities between the two Koreas is mostly accountable as a result of the dramatic reconciliation between the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union. The prospects for arms reduction between North and South Korea are not bright, however, as they show sharp differences in approaching the talks.

South Korean government has presented multi-stage arms reduction proposals in the ongoing inter-Korean talks. The three-stage arms reduction plan is for North and South Korea to build military confidence in each other in stage one, limit armaments on a reciprocal basis in stage two, and push for disarmament in stage three. But Pyongyang insists that the two Koreas directly go into discussions to cut each other's armaments.

One pleasing sign from the North is that it somewhat yielded from previous claims in the first inter-Korean prime ministers' talks. For example, it has not insisted on the halt to the Korea-U.S. combined military exercise "Team Spirit," and the unconditional pullout of the U.S. forces stationed in Korea, as preconditions for the talks.

North Korean watchers cautioned that the Pyongyang regime, isolated from the rest of the world for over 40 years, has not basically changed, citing no shifts in its policy even after the sweeping democratic reforms in East Europe.

Mindful of this, the nation's three military branches—Army, Navy and Air Force—should not slacken their defense posture as yet, they stressed. The Armed Forces are combat-ready and striving to become self- reliant. They feel the country is capable of manufacturing a number of its own precision weapon systems in addition to tanks, missiles and antitank rockets.

The nation's growing defense industry is helping the military build up its strength to counter possible major hostilities from the North. The best strategy for peace lies in securing superior strength to quash the enemy's aggressive designs and thus prevent war—achieving a victory without fighting for it, the defense minister feels. The Korean Armed Forces were established in 1948, three years after Korea was liberated from the Japanese.

No Makes Televised Speech

SK0110030790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0249 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 1 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korean president No Tae-u said Monday relations with North Korea are approaching a major turning point and South Korea should use this movement to unlock the door to peace and unification of the Korean peninsula.

No also called, in an address on the 42nd anniversary of the armed forces, for the military to adopt a firm security posture in the period of rapid change.

The president said in the speech, televised nationwide, that peaceful unification was becoming feasible within this century, considering the sweeping changes taking place all over the world. "North Korea will not be able to adhere to its unrealistic policy of communizing the South for much longer as it has no longer powerful supporters to fall back on. Clearly, the North has reached the dead-end of its isolationist policy," No said. "Inter-Korean relations are thus approaching a major turning point. We should spur this movement with a view to unlocking the door for peace and unification. We are doing our best to encourage North Korea to step forward into the open world and start on a road of dialogue, exchanges, cooperation and rapport with us.

"However, any period of rapid change is fraught with risks as well as opportunities. This state of flux calls for a firm security posture as an absolute necessity." Pointing to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, No emphasized the need for a tightened defence posture. "The Mideast situation points up the stark reality that a nation without the ability to defend itself cannot exist for long and its dream of peace and well-being can be dashed overnight. Peace cannot be secured by merely wishing for it: Peace can only be secured by a combination of determination and ability to defend it."

"Accordingly, we must establish a more efficient and effective chain of command and a more reliable and faster information and communication network, while further modernizing and improving our military hardware and logistics. Our armed forces are now carrying out bold reforms in all areas including strategic thinking and organization," he said. The armed forces will further improve combat readiness and democratize barracks life with the aim of maximizing their defence capabilities, No said.

On the prospect of achieving national unification, he said: "Now the 21st century is only a decade away. Changes sweeping the world at this juncture and their anticipated impact on the situation on the Korean peninsula suggest that it is becoming feasible to achieve peaceful unification before the present century is out.

"Our armed forces should, therefore, look beyond the current South-North confrontation across the Demilitarized Zone and begin preparations for the day of unification." "The armed forces of a unified homeland will not only be charged with defending peace on the Korean peninsula stretching from Mt. Paektu to Mt. Halla but will also be playing a greater role for the security of Northeast Asia and the Pacific," No said.

Court Sentences Leading Dissident to Three Years

SK2909081190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0638 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 29 (YONHAP)—Kim Kun-tae, South Korea's leading dissident, was sentenced to three years in jail by Seoul District Criminal Court Saturday under the National Security Law and the Law on Assembly and Demonstration.

Kim, 43, virtual head of the nation's largest dissident group, the National Alliance of Democratic Movements (Chonminnyon), was arrested in June and charged with writing a statement calling for U.S. troops to leave the country. The prosecution demanded seven years in jail for the defendant.

He was also charged with organizing a rally in May against the creation of the ruling party.

Chonminnyon issued a statement calling the sentence political retaliation for Kim's pro-democracy efforts.

Burma

SLORC Member Meets U.S. Ambassador 28 Sep

BK2809162890 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Vice Admiral Maung Maung Khin, member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] of the Union of Myanmar [Burma], on behalf of Senior General Saw Maung, chairman of the SLORC, received U.S. Ambassador Mr. Burton Levin at the Ministry of Defense's Dagon Hall at 0930 today.

Present at the occasion together with Vice Admiral Maung Maung Khin, were U Ohn Gyaw, director general of the Political Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Colonel Thura Aung Htet, director general of the Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Foreign Ministry Denies Embassy Intrusions

BK2909025190 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 29 Sep 90 p 8

[Excerpt] The Burmese Foreign Ministry yesterday dismissed reports of Burmese troop intrusions into foreign embassy compounds and detention of Burmese employees at Western missions as a ploy to discredit the Burmese Government. "The move was simply an endeavour to present a situation as if the international community is concerned about the internal developments in Myanmar [Burma]," said a statement released yesterday.

It said that in fact the Italian Ambassador requested an appointment with the director-general of the Political Department to pass on a statement on behalf of the EC countries on certain actions taken by the Burmese Government. "But due to misconceptions among some Western heads of mission, the impression was given as if the international community was collectively protesting..." the Foreign Ministry statement said.

Burmese Ambassador to Thailand U Nyunt Swe also denied the reports. "We abide by international law, and our troops have never entered the commound of any embassy," he said.

Following new agencies' reports quoting a Rangoon-based diplomat which the BANGKOK POST carried yesterday, the ambassador said he had sought a "true account" from the State Law and Order Restoration Council in Rangoon. What actually happened, according to the SLORC version, was "two or three security personnel" were running after students who were shouting anti-government slogans, and the chase inadvertently led the soldiers to the compound of the residence of one German diplomat. Upon learning that they "unknowingly" went into diplomats' residence, the soldiers apoligised and withdrew, he said. "Not a single person was arrested at that incident," the ambassador added.

According to the agency reports, Burmese troops entered the compounds of the West German, British and US embassies. The Ambassador said the reports were "totally wrong." He also dismissed as false information that Burmese employed by Western missions in Rangoon were being harassed and detained. But he admitted authorities are interrogating some Burmese employees suspected to have connections with the case of U Kyi Maung, chairman of opposition party National League for Democracy which won a landslide victory in this year's elections in May. The military government on September 6 arrested U Kyi Maung and NLD Secretary Chit Kaing on alleged spying charges.

Those Burmese employed by Western missions, said the ambassador, were contacted for interrogation by officials at their homes. They never got in touch with them at work, he said. "After they came for interrogation at the office, our authorities asked them some questions, and then let them go back home. So apparently something has been mixed up in those false reports," he said. "None of them has been detained. If we found any of those employees involved in the charge of Kyi Maung and Chit Kaing, we would take legal action against them. But there is no illegal arrest of any local employees of foreign embassies," he added.

Asked to comment on the oral protest delivered by Italian Ambassador Giorgio Basco on behalf of the European Community and other countries over embassy raids and human rights abuses, the ambassador said as of yesterday morning, the Burmese authorities "have not yet received any official protest." [passage omitted]

Press Release Issued on 'False' News Broadcast

BK2809162290 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] today issued a press release in connection with a false news commentary broadcast by VOA and the BBC.

Colonel Thura Aung Htet, director general of the Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; U Win Lwin, deputy director general of the Political Department; U Aye, director of the American Division; and U Khin Maung Win, director of the Public Relations and Information Department; received Mr. Jaruslav Richter, ambassador of the CSFR to the Union of Myanmar, on behalf of the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, at the Foreign Ministry annex on 37 Thantaman Road, Yangon [Rangoon], at 1530 today and explained the press release.

The press release issued by the Foreign Ministry states: There is no truth in the news commentary broadcast by the morning transmission of the BBC and VOA on 28 September 1990 regarding the so-called verbal demarche by the international community against some individuals and the questioning of a few members of the local staff of the U.S., British, and Australian Embassies for their activities in contravention of the existing laws. It is tantamount to an effort to spread the news of their choice with the aim of discrediting the government.

A few embassies in Yangon see Article 38 of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations through their perspective as a matter of human rights and not from the viewpoint of their obligation to abide by the convention. It is therefore regretted that what should have been a simple diplomatic exercise by a few diplomats in the Yangon Diplomatic Corps has been grossly exaggerated via VOA and the BBC, which has been broadcasting incorrect news about Myanmar.

Early Release of Aung San Suu Kyi 'Ruled Out'

BK2909020090 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 29 Sep 90 p 8

[Text] Burmese Ambassador to Thailand U Nyunt Swe ruled out the possibility for the release in the near future of opposition party leader Aung San Suu Kyi, who has remained under house arrest for over a year.

The charismatic leader of the National League for Democracy, which won a landslide victory in the May elections, will remain in the present condition "for national security," he said. She has been confined since troops of the military junta surrounded her house in Rangoon suburb in July 1989.

The possibility was first brought up by Japan's former Cabinet minister Watanabe at a "casual conversation" with Gen [General] Saw Maung during his recent visit to Burma. The Japanese visitor floated the question whether the ruling State Law and Order Restoration Council would set Aung San Suu Kyi free if she agrees to leave Burma for England but Gen Saw Maung took it as a casual remark. A topic brought up at a "casual conversation" should not be taken as an indication for a possibility for SLORC to change the "restriction order," the ambassador said. "We are not considering the restriction order because we remember the surprise attack of September 1988," he said, referring to the unrest when SLORC seized power after brutal suppression of pro-democracy movement. SLORC, he said, would consider reviewing the house arrest order when "the situation calms down."

On the case of NLD's Chairman U Kyu Maung and Secretary Chit Khaing, recently arrested on spying charges, the Ambassador said SLORC is investigating the matter. He stressed that authorities "can take actions in line with the martial law" which is still in effect. However, they decided to proceed with "legal actions" where Kyi Maung and Chit Khaing would be released if there is not enough evidence.

Prisoners on Hunger Strike; Monks Battling Army

BK2909022790 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 29 Sep 90 p 8

[Text] Burmese political prisoners have gone on a hunger strike while slingshot-wielding Buddhist monks are fighting daily skirmishes with government troops in central Burma, diplomatic sources said yesterday. "The government is clearly very nervous and is warning the public not to get involved in anti-government demonstrations supposedly planned for October 1," said a Rangoon-based diplomat contacted by telephone from Bangkok by UPI.

The diplomat said on September 18 a group of students held for political offences began a hunger strike in Insein Jail, the government's main prison just north of Rangoon. "About half of the students have now collapsed and have been taken to hospital," he said. "Another group of students joined the strike on Tuesday." The condition of the hunger strikers was not known, he said.

At the same time military has stepped up public intimidation tactics and brought more troops into the capital in anticipation of possible demonstrations, he said. Armoured vehicles have patrolled through the town honking their horns while loudspeakers carried warnings against joining demonstrations rumoured to be set for Monday.

"The political parties have appealed to the military to allow the elected legislature to convene by the end of September, so that may be the reason for the fears about that date," the diplomat said.

The main opposition party which won a landslide victory in May's elections yesterday called for a dialogue with the military junta, resisting demands from militant party members to confront the regime over its refusal to transfer power to the elected legislature. Moderate members of the National League for Democracy (NLD) prevailed in a tumultuous party meeting that supported a letter sent by the party to the military leadership asking for a dialogue on the drafting of a new constitution and the transfer of power, party officials said.

Militants in the party took this letter as a "weak-kneed capitulation to the ruling junta and a betrayal of the party's programme", said Khin Muang Swe, a member of the central executive committee of the party. But he said the party faces not threat of a split because of the militants. "They form only a small minority, and I am sure they will see reason before long," he said.

He said party leaders have been dispatched to cool tempers in Mandalay where militant monks and students have been staging daily demonstrations and sligshot attacks on military personnel. Party officials said that the call for dialogue did not mean acceptance of the military position, but was only an attempt to seek a clarification.

In a meeting on Wednesday among 150 NLD township level party members, militants demanded the resignation of moderate executive committee members Chan Aye and Soe Thein who have argued for accommodation with the junta. Chan Aye, a lawyer, said the party had only three options—confronting the military, opening a dialogue, or doing nothing—party sources said. "The NLD is a legally-registered political party, and has contested and won the elections legally," Chan Aye was quoted as saying. "Do you want to destroy the party's track record of legality by resorting to illegal acts?"

SLORC Retains Letters for 'Future Reference'

BK0110140090 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] The State Law and Order Restoration Council has issued Declaration No. 2/90 today—1 October 1990—the 13th day of the waxing moon of Thadingyut, 1352 Myanmar [Burmese] era. The text of the declaration reads:

The State Law and Order Restoration Council is in receipt of many letters and suggestions on political, economic, and social matters from political parties, organizations, and individuals. It is hereby announced that these letters and suggestions are being retained as records by the State Law and Order Restoration Council to become historical documents for future reference.

By the authority vested in me
Signed: Khin Nyunt, major general, secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Agreement Signed With USSR on Experts Group

BK0110120990 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Malaysia and the Soviet Republic of Uzbekistan have signed an agreement for the formalization of a joint group of experts to discuss trade, economic, and social cooperation annually. Deputy Foreign Minister Datuk Dr. Abdullah Fadzil Che Wan and Uzbekistan Foreign Minister (S.A. Asimov) signed the agreement in Tashkent.

Earlier, the second meeting of the Malaysia-Uzbekistan Joint Experts Group was held in the Uzbekistan capital in conjunction with the recent Malaysia Week. A joint business center has meanwhile been set up between the Malaysian Federal Territory Chamber of Commerce and Tashkent Chamber of Commerce. Malaysian businessmen were among a delegation of about (?30) persons, led by the deputy foreign minister, to the Islamic republic. BERNAMA news agency reports that several joint ventures in tourism, general trading, industry, and culture have been set up between Malaysian businessmen and Uzbekistan business companies.

AFP Says Party To Drop Islamic State Concept

BK0110081390 Hong Kong AFP in English 0750 GMT 1 Oct 90

[By Mervin Nambiar]

[Text] Kota Bahru, Malaysia, Oct 1 (AFP)—Malaysia's largest religious party will drop a commitment to set up an Islamic state in a bid to improve the electoral prospects of a loose opposition alliance, political sources here said Monday. They said that the fundamentalist Parti Islam, allied to Moslem moderates led by former trade minister Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah, will for the first time avoid any reference to an Islamic state in a manifesto to be released soon.

The decision by the 31-year-old party led by imams is a major concession to Mr. Razaleigh, a bachelor prince from this conservative, predominantly ethnic Malay, state of Kelantan where Parti Islam enjoys wide support, analysts said. Mr. Razaleigh, 53, is seeking to oust Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed and the ruling 11-party National Front coalition at Malaysia's next general election that Dr. Mahathir is expected to call soon.

Dr. Mahathir, 64, told supporters during a campaign swing here over the weekend that he expected to fix the date for Malaysia's eighth general election soon. He said that he was finalising the list of candidates his front would field for 180 seats in the expanded Dewan Rakyat, the lower house of the national parliament, and the 351 seats in 11 of Malaysia's 13 state assemblies that would hold simultaneous polls. Analysts say that the polls will for the first time threaten the stranglehold which the National Front and its forerunner the Alliance have enjoyed on power since independence from Britain 33 years ago.

Since breaking with Dr. Mahathir in 1987, Mr. Razaleigh has attempted to forge a broad alliance of opposition parties, representing various racial and religious interests, to provide an alternative to the National Front.

Mr. Razaleigh's pact with the Parti Islam, however, has worried his other allies, particularly the Democratic Action Party (DAP), which draws much of its support from ethnic Chinese who fear their interests would be further diluted in a theocracy, analysts said. Dr. Mahathir and his top aides have attempted to undercut support for both Parti Islam and the DAP by accusing them of entering into an unholy alliance at the expense of their supporters.

Parti Islam and DAP leaders however deny entering into any electoral pact, but they acknowledge their individual party ties with Mr. Razaleigh's moderate Semangat '46. "Yes, we have our problems," Mr. Razaleigh said in an interview Friday, adding "after all our alliance of opposition parties is only one year old."

He said that although the Parti Islam and the DAP were not allied they would not upset his plans for straight fights between the opposition and government in most constituencies, a key element in the opposition electoral strategy. "There may be three-cornered fights in some constituencies but these will number 10 or 15 at most," he said.

Parti Islam and the DAP were Malaysia's two largest opposition parties before Mr. Razaleigh formed Semangat '46.

A report by Malaysia's independent Elections Commission said that Parti Islam polled close to 717,000 of the almost four million votes cast in the 98 parliamentary constituencies it contested in the 1986 elections but won only one seat in the lower house. The party however scored heavily in Kelantan and Trengganu states where it drew more than 40 per cent of votes cast and where Mr. Razaleigh feels its alliance with his Semangat '46 will blunt the National Front's performance.

The DAP, which scored heavily in predominantly ethnic Chinese areas in 1986, polled almost a million of the 3.2 million votes cast in the 64 parliamentary constituencies it contested. The party won 24 seats in the lower house.

Mahathir: National Front 'Ready' for Elections

BK3009000090 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Speaking in his capacity of chairman of the National Front, Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed said he wanted all preparations for the next general elections, including the issue of the missing electoral list in Kelantan, to be completed before the election date was announced. The prime minister said many names had been missing from the electoral lists in various areas in Kelantan. When all preparations are completed, he will announce the election date. He was speaking to newsmen in Gua Musang today.

Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir and his wife are now on a two-day visit to Kelantan to inspect development programs for local people in that state. The prime minister added that election preparations made by the National Front members in Kelantan are progressing smoothly and that they are ready for the next general elections. He said his meeting with leaders of the component parties of the National Front was aimed at assessing their readiness for the elections.

[Hong Kong AFP in English at 0941 GMT on 29 September adds the following: "Sources close to the prime minister said they expected dissolution of the Dewan Rakyat, the lower house, and the state legislatures later this month before the government tables its 1991 budget in parliament."]

DAP Official Announces To Quit Politics

BK2909131390 Kuala Lumpur RTM Television Network 1 in Malay 1200 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Lee Lam Thye, deputy secretary general of the DAP [Democratic Action Party], has announced his intention to quit politics effective immediately. He will not contest the Bukit Bintang constituency when his parliamentary term expires. In a statement issued today, Encik [Mr.] Lee Lam Thye announced his decision to quit politics for good.

Singapore

Goh Chok Tong Announces New Deputy Premiers

BK3009152790 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] The first deputy prime minister, Mr. Goh Chok Tong, has made known the names of his future deputy prime ministers. They are Brigadier General Lee Hsien Loong and Mr. Ong Teng Cheong.

Mr. Goh said Mr. Ong will remain the secretary general of the National Trade Union Congress. Gen. Lee will retain his current portfolio as minister for trade and industry and second defense minister, services. He will also act as prime minister should Mr. Goh be away from Singapore. Mr. Goh will take over as prime minister in the last week of November. The exact date will be announced in two to three weeks' time. He was speaking to reporters at the PAP [People's Action Party] Community Day [words indistinct].

Mr. Goh said he was doing away with the designation of first and second deputy prime ministers [DPM's] because they would become more or less equal DPM's. Mr. Goh added that the emphasis of his new government would be to continue what Mr. Lee Kuan Yew had done and would be [words indistinct].

Mr. Goh also announced that the new Ministry for Information and the Arts would be created. It will be headed by the minister of state for finance and foreign affairs, Brigadier General George Yeo, who will be made an acting minister. Mr. Goh said the new ministry is needed as it is important that the government be able to communicate its messages and be understood by the people.

On the development of the arts, Mr. Goh said he wants to create [words indistinct] culture flourishes in Singapore. One way to do this is by putting in the right infrastructure like providing more resources to schools where children can learn to appreciate music and the arts.

More on Lee Kuan Yew Post

BK0110133690 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Mr. Lee Kuan Yew has agreed to remain as the secretary general of the People's Action Party [PAP] after stepping down as prime minister next month. The first deputy prime minister, Mr. Goh Chok Tong, said he had asked Mr. Lee to stay on. In an interview with the PAP news gazette, PETIR, Mr. Goh, who is the party's first assistant secretary general, said Singapore politics is unique and Mr. Lee is a [word indistinct] man.

The Singapore Government has followed the tradition of other democratic parties in which the prime minister is the leader of his party. Mr. Goh said having Mr. Lee remain as secretary general is due to [words indistinct] as the founder of the PAP. He added that it is to Singapore's advantage that Mr. Lee should remain as the patron of domestic politics [words indistinct] foreign relations. Mr. Goh hoped Mr. Lee would stay on for a while. He gives the PAP added [words indistinct] to perform its tasks.

Cambodia

Indochinese Foreign Ministers' Meeting Ends

BK0110060290 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0447 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK October 1—The foreign ministerial consultative meeting of the three Indochinese countries was closed here on September 29 after two day's sitting.

Present at the meeting were a delegation of the State of Cambodia led by Deputy Foreign Minister Sok An, a delegation of Vietnam by Deputy Foreign Minister Tran Quang Co, and a delegation of Laos by Deputy Foreign Minister Soulivong Prasideth.

The three sides exchanged views and agreed upon ways to accelerate the process of a political solution to the Cambodian problem on the basis of guaranteeing independence, sovereignty and peace for Cambodia.

The Vietnamese and Lao sides warmly welcomed the positive results obtained so far in the process of a political solution to the Cambodian conflict thanks to the goodwill attitude of the government of the State of Cambodia headed by Prime Minister Hun Sen. They supported the correct position of the State of Cambodia on the Supreme National Council (S.N.C).

The meeting also called for the reconvening of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia as mentioned in the framework document of the United Nations Security Council members, the Jakarta joint statement dated September 10, and the U.N. Security Council's September 20 resolution.

Sok An Cited

BK2909143690 Hong Kong AFP in English 1415 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Phnom Penh, Sept 29 (AFP)—Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam called Saturday for the Paris conference on Cambodia to be reconvened, to elaborate on a peace blueprint drawn up by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

The appeal came at the end of a two-day meeting here between deputy foreign ministers of the three countries to discuss the peace process, Cambodian Deputy Foreign Minister Sok An told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE. Laos was represented by Soulivong Phasithhidet and Vietnam by Tran Quang Co.

Mr. Sok An stressed that the three allies had also agreed that a comprehensive political solution to the civil war in Cambodia should be forged on the basis of "respect for the national independence and sovereignty of Cambodia in order to reach lasting peace." "We have unanimity of view on how to push forward the (peace) process," he said.

Mr. Sok An, who has played an important role in peace negotiations with the resistance, said the three countries had asked for the Paris International Conference on Cambodia (PICC) to be reconvened, to elaborate the framework document drawn up by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council (P5). "The P5 only made a framework ... And this should be elaborated within the PICC," Mr. Sok An said.

The Paris talks failed in August last year to forge a comprehensive settlement ending 12 years of war in Cambodia, but hopes that it would be reconvened were raised when the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council agreed on a peace blueprint last month. The plan beaten out by Britain, China, France, the Soviet Union and the United States called for an extensive United Nations role in administering Cambodia during a transition period running up to elections. It also recommended a sovereignity council, grouping members of the Phnom Penh Government with the three party resistance, that would take up the country's U.N. seat. The four warring parties accepted the U.N. blueprint as a basis for peace negotiations when they met in Jakarta earlier this month.

In a September 10 communique at the end of that meeting the factions also said they had agreed to set up a 12-member Supreme National Council (SNC), grouping six representatives from Phnom Penh and six from the resistance. But the first SNC meeting was suspended in Bangkok last week because the two sides could not agree on the chairmanship of the body.

The Hanoi-backed government here has been battling the resistance alone for the past year, following the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from the country. Vietnam invaded Cambodia in late 1978 to oust a brutal Khmer Rouge regime. The Khmer Rouge is now the military mainstay of the resistance.

Hor Nam Hong's Meeting With Media Reported

BK3009102890 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Report on Comrade Hor Nam Hong's meeting with local and foreign reporters—portions recorded]

[Summary From Poor Reception] "On the morning of 28 September, at the office of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Hor Nam Hong, foreign minister of the State of Cambodia, warmly and cordially met with local and foreign reporters on a number of issues relating to a political solution to the Cambodian problem." At the meeting, Hor Nam Hong said:

[Begin Hor Nam Hong recording] This is not a news conference. Earlier, there was a meeting of the Supreme National Council [SNC] in Bangkok. "I would like to specify we have never asked that the Jakarta joint statement be changed; on the contrary, we asked that this statement be most rigorously adhered to." The Jakarta statement "does not say Samdech Sihanouk must be chairman of the SNC." The statement says if the 12 members [of the SNC] agree, "they can elect a 13th member; it was not specified who this 13th member would be." The meeting in Bangkok did not reach a consensus on the election of the SNC chairman. "The fact that we let the samdech be the chairman is our gift to the other side." "Why does the other side refuse to let Comrade Hun Sen be vice chairman?" This is the principle of equality. "Allowing the samdech to be chairman is our gift, goodwill, and concession to the other side. There are two parties. If one party voluntarily agrees to let the other party be chairman and the latter refuses the former party as vice chairman, is this reasonable?" [end recording]

Phnom Penh Says Resistance 'Destroying' Peace

BK3009093290 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 29 Sep 90

[PRACHEACHON commentary ; date not given: "Who Is Destroying the Cambodian Peace Process?"]

[Text] The tripartite resistance groups of the so-called Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea have been launching a propaganda campaign to mislead people into believing the Phnom Penh Government is sabotaging the Cambodian peace process.

This is another set of maneuvers conducted by the groups, including Samdech Sihanouk, to protect the genocidal Pol Pot clique against the State of Cambodia [SOC], which is the sole most important force blocking the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime. Everyone knows that the continuous activities to date conducted by the tripartite resistance groups are perfidious. They do not sincerely wish to ever peacefully resolve the Cambodian problem. What has been principally agreed upon, such as the Tokyo joint communique and the recent Jakarta joint statement—which are the historic documents clearing the way for the establishment of the Supreme National Council [SNC] welcomed and upheld by the Cambodian people inside the country and abroad and the international public—are being subject to their ceaseless destruction. They have launched a deceptive propaganda campaign to put the blame on the Phnom Penh government. This government is tirelessly striving to faithfully adhere to the principal and essential agreements reached in Tokyo and Jakarta to bringing about a definite peaceful solution to the deadlocked Cambodian problem as desired by the Cambodian people and motherland and preventing the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime at all costs.

The SOC position is genuine, goodwilled, and in conformity with the vital and sacred aspirations of the Cambodian people. We are not blowing hot air, and we always honor our word, as reaffirmed by Comrade Chairman Hun Sen at the 26 September mass meeting. The State of Cambodia [SOC] has made a great deal of concessions, ranging from completely withdrawing Vietnamese volunteer troops from Cambodia to allowing the tripartite resistance without territory and without people under its control to be part of the SNC on an equal footing. These are really great concessions.

It is regrettable the SOC has made more concessions and compromises, while the tripartite resistance, including Sihanouk, has stepped up maneuvers for the purpose of using the political settlement to serve the strategy of returning the genocidal Pol Pot regime to Cambodia. The resistance groups have produced their demands endlessly in an attempt to gain the upper hand in what they have not been able to achieve by military means over the past 11 years. This is the reason for the interruption of the first meeting of the SNC. They keep maintaining their old stance, which has caused the pause in the SNC meeting.

Son Sann, a ringleader of the tripartite resistance, has insolently demanded that Samdech Sihanouk be appointed SNC chairman. He claimed, however, there is no use nominating Comrade Chairman Hun Sen as vice chairman of the Supreme Council by arguing the appointment of Comrade Chairman Hun Sen would mean the SNC is placed within the framework of the Phnom Penh government. This is an absurd and irresponsible statement by a member of the SNC representing national unity.

They have unremittingly demanded Samdech Sihanouk be installed as the SNC chairman, but they are afraid of the vice chairmanship position. This very conspicuous action can never fool people into taking for granted the dishonest tricks played by the tripartite resistance groups for the purpose of destroying the Cambodian peace process.

We wish to repeat the SNC meeting can continue only if the other side immediately relinquishes its maneuvers aimed at overthrowing the SOC and maintains the equal numerical composition of the SNC. Samdech Sihanouk can only be the SNC chairman with Comrade Hun Sen as vice chairman; otherwise there should be two cochairmen, or a single rotated chairman.

The Cambodian people steadfastly support the State of Cambodia's stance in search for a peaceful settlement of the Cambodian problem, but they are vehemently against every attempt to eliminate the Cambodian State

Government and the Cambodian People's Armed Forces, which are the most powerful and the only irreplaceable force capable of blocking the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime.

French Government Delegation Arrives 28 Sep

BK2809134090 Hong Kong AFP in English 1309 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Phnom Penh, Sept 28 (AFP)—French Secretary of State for International Cultural Relations Thierry de Beauce arrived here Friday leading a high-powered delegation on a landmark visit to war-torn Cambodia.

Mr. de Beauce, the most senior Western government official to visit Cambodia in more than 15 years, was greeted at Pochentong Airport by Education Minister Yos Sun and Deputy Foreign Minister Long Visalo. Mr. de Beauce was to attend a dinner late Friday hosted by Foreign Minister Hor Nam Hong.

He is officially here to open Sunday the new branch of the independent but state-subsidised Alliance Francaise but his visit to a country with which Paris has no diplomatic ties has major political significance. One observer said "It is recognition but not recognition" of a government that has been battling a tripartite resistance movement for almost 12 years. Others said it showed Paris was ready to treat Phnom Penh on an equal footing with the resistance after the withdrawal one year ago of the Vietnamese troops who ousted the Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge in 1979.

Mr. de Beauce is scheduled to meet Prime Minister Hun Sen, Mr. Hor Nam Hong and the ministers of culture, education and health and will also visit the ancient Angkor temple comlexes before flying to Bangkok Monday. Mr. Hor Nam Hong, newly appointed as foreign minister, said Friday: "We have been told we can discuss any matters with this delegation." He cited scientific, economic, cultural and technical cooperation.

The SPK (KAMPUCHEAN NEWS AGENCY) said Friday the visit was aimed at "promoting relations and cooperation" between France and Cambodia, which was a French protectorate from 1863 and 1954.

Political analysts here said the two sides would almost certainly discuss peace efforts, including reconvening the Paris International Conference on Cambodia that ended in August last year without agreement. The deadlock over the formation of the Supreme National Council (SNC)—an interim authority that would take Cambodia's seat at the United Nations pending U.N.-supervised elections—would also likely be discussed.

The 12-member SNC groups six Phnom Penh representatives with two from each of the three resistance factions—followers of former monarch Prince Norodom Sihanouk, of former Premier Son Sann and the Khmer Rouge. Its first meeting was suspended in Bangkok last week when the four factions failed to agree on who should take the SNC chairmanship.

The high level French delegation includes President Mitteerrand's diplomatic adviser Loic Hennekine, the head of the Foreign Ministry's Asia Department Claude Martin and the foreign minister's advisor Brigitte Pellegrini.

Leon Vandermeersch, head of the French School for Far Eastern Studies, is accompanying Mr. de Beauce in connection with the visit Monday to Angkor Wat, symbol of the Cambodian nation. His school has valuable records on the Angkor temples and was in charge of its restoration until the early 1970's. Mr. Vandermeersch's presence indicated that the school would play an important scientific role in the restoration of the northwest Cambodian temples, a French source said.

SPK Reports Arrival

BK2909074690 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0456 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK September 29—A French governmental delegation headed by Thierry de Beauce, secretary of state for International Cultural Relations, arrived here Friday on an official friendship visit to Cambodia from September 28 to October 1.

The French delegation was welcomed at Pochentong airport by Education Minister Yos Son, Deputy Foreign Minister Long Visalo, and other officials.

Mr. de Beauce is accompanied by Lois Henneking, presidential adviser, and Claude Martin, director of the Foreign Ministry's Department for Asia. The delegation was quoted by AFP as saying in Paris Wednesday that the visit would give Paris "an inside look at what is happening in Cambodia and an opportunity to approach the problem from the angle of the Hun Sen Government."

According to a communique released Thursday by the Cambodian Foreign Ministry, the visit is aimed at upgrading the relations and cooperation between the two countries.

The visit comes as part of the common efforts for settlement of the Cambodian conflict. Despite the break of diplomatic relations between the two countries since 1975 when the Khmer Rouge's Polpotists took power, France is actively reviving its ties with Cambodia.

An "Alliance Francaise" language school supported by the French Government was opened in Phnom Penh on September 15 with a staff of 16 teachers and a start-up budget of eight million francs (1.5 million U.S. dollars).

Chea Sim Meets Group

BK0110071390 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0504 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK October 1—Chea Sim, Politburo member of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee and president of both the National Assembly and the National Council of the United Front for Construction and Defense of the Kampuchean Fatherland, received here on Sept. 30 a French governmental delegation headed by Thierry de Beauce, secretary of state for international cultural relations.

Chairman Chea Sim warmly welcomed the visit, designating it as a reopening of the traditional relations between Cambodia and France. He profoundly thanked the French government for its contributions to the process of a political solution to the Cambodian problem.

In his reply, Thierry de Beauce expressed thanks to the Cambodian government for providing favorable conditions to his delegation during its visit in the country.

Men Sam-an Receives SRV Trade Union Delegation

BK0110040490 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Summary] On the afternoon of 28 September, Mrs. Men Sam-an, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Cambodian Federation of Trade Unions [CFTU], received a delegation of the Vietnamese Labor Union led by Comrade (Nguyen Van Tu), member of the CPV Central Committee and of the Council of State and chairman of the General Federation of Vientamese Workers.

Mrs. Men Sam-an informed the delegation of the general situation in Cambodia, particularly the goodwilled stance of the State of Cambodia's party and government, in seeking national reconciliation to end the Cambodian conflict. She also spoke on development of the CFTU organizations and thanked the assistance given by friendly countries, especially Vietnam.

Comrade [(Nguyen Van Tu)] thanked the Cambodian party, state, and the CFTU for the warm reception of his delegation during this visit. He also praised Cambodian employees and workers for their achievements in the past over 11 years, and pledged to further enhance relations between the trade union organizations of the two countries.

SRV Foreign Minister Greets Hor Nam Hong

BK2809141990 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Comrade Nguyen Co Thach, foreign minister of the SRV, recently sent a congratulatory message to Comrade Hor Nam Hong on his appointment to the post of foreign minister of the State of Cambodia. The message notes:

I would like to extend warm congratulations to you on your appointment as the foreign minister of the State of Cambodia. May the harmonious friendship and close bond of cooperation between Vietnam and Cambodia further strengthen and develop with each passing day. May you enjoy good health and successes in your noble duty.

Soviet Ambassador Myakotnykh Received by Leaders

Meets Hun Sen

BK3009134390 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] On the morning of 28 September at the office of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Hun Sen, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received Yuriy Myakotnykh, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the USSR to the State of Cambodia, upon being assigned a diplomatic mission to the State of Cambodia.

Comrade Hun Sen expressed warm and cordial welcome to Comrade Yuriy Myakotnykh, Soviet ambassador to Cambodia, who recently arrived to take up his diplomatic mission. Comrade Hun Sen briefed the ambassador on the Cambodian situation, particularly the current situation and a political solution to the Cambodian problem, including the full USSR support. Through the comrade USSR ambassador to Cambodia, Comrade Hun Sen conveyed greetings to the Soviet Union's party, government, and people, and expressed profound gratitude to the entire Soviet Union's party, government, and people for providing support and assistance to the Cambodian people's rebirth in the past more than 11 years. Finally, Comrade Chairman of the Council of Ministers Hun Sen wished Comrade Yuriy Myakotnykh success in his diplomatic mission in the State of Cambodia to expand and strengthen the relations of friendship and cooperation between Cambodia and the Soviet Union.

Comrade Yuriy Myakotnykh expressed great joy at the State of Cambodia's party and government, particularly the comrade Chairman of the Council of Ministers Hun Sen who allowed him to pay a courtesy call to understand the real situation in Cambodia. The comrade is very happy for being assigned the diplomatic mission to Cambodia. Comrade Yuriy Myakotnykh promised to do his best to carry out his diplomatic mission to achieve further successes to contribute to assisting and supporting the search for peace in Cambodia.

Meets With Tie Banh

BK0110083190 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] On the morning of 29 September at the 13 October Guest House, Comrade General Tie Banh, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the the Council of Ministers, and defense minister, granted an audience to Comrade Yuriy Myakotnykh, Soviet ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the State of Cambodia.

On that occasion, Comrade Yuriy Myakotnykh conveyed best regards from the Soviet Defense Ministry leaders to Comrade General Tie Banh and the Cambodian People's Armed Forces [CPAF]. The comrade praised the CPAF units for their feats in firmly defending the country following the total withdrawal of

Vietnamese volunteer troops from Cambodia. He also hailed the party and government of the State of Cambodia for setting forth an appropriate policy on national reconciliation to seek peace for Cambodian people through peaceful and fair means. The comrade stressed that recently the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC] jointly adopted five framework documents for use as a basis for a political solution to the Cambodian problem.

Comrade Yuriy Myakotnykh also stressed the Soviet party, government, and people have wholeheartedly supported the State of Cambodia's stance and goodwill to seek peace for the people.

In his reply, General Tie Banh expressed a warm welcome and deep thanks to the Soviet party, government, and people for their moral and material support in firmly strengthening the cooperation and bonds of solidarity between our two peoples and countries.

Dealing with the situation in Cambodia, Comrade General Tie Banh stressed the three reactionary Khmer groups continue stubbornly use all maneuvers to try to sabotage the talks. He went on to say the Cambodian Armed Forces and people wish to live in genuine peace. All political solutions must guarantee the people's right to self-determination and their safety.

Comrade General Tie Banh hoped the diplomatic mission of Comrade Yuriy Myakotnykh in Cambodia would be successful, especially in contributing to the search for peace for the Cambodian people in the future.

Talks With Chea Sim

BK2909094490 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] On the morning of 28 September at the office of the National Assembly, Comrade Chea Sim, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, chairman of both the National Assembly and the National Council of the Kampuchean United Front for National Defense and Construction, welcomed and received Comrade Yuriy Myakotnykh, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Soviet Union, who paid a courtesy call upon starting his diplomatic mission in the State of Cambodia.

On this occasion, Comrade Yuriy Myakotnykh conveyed wishes and greetings from the Soviet leadership to Comrade Chea Sim and other leaders of the State of Cambodia. Comrade Yuriy Myakotnykh briefed Comrade Chea Sim on his biography and diplomatic mission. The comrade said his diplomatic mission is to strengthen and expand the cooperation between the State of Cambodia and the Soviet Union, particularly in the search for a political solution to the Cambodian problem.

Replying, Comrade Chea Sim expressed the conviction that the diplomatic mission of Comrade Yuriy Myakotnykh in Cambodia will produce good results and said the diplomat will certainly contribute actively to the search for a political solution to the Cambodian problem. Comrade Chea Sim thanked the Soviet party and government for wholeheatedly providing moral and material support to the Cambodian people, particularly the contribution to working out the five framework documents of the UN Security Council, which are the basis for a comprehensive solution to the Cambodian problem. Comrade Chea Sim also specified that any political solution should preserve the Cambodian people's gains.

Chea Soth Receives Outgoing Polish Ambassador

BK0110044890 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Summary] On the morning of 28 September at the office of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Chea Soth, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia, met and had a cordial talk with Comrade Jozef Koblialka, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Polish republic to Cambodia, who has ended his term of office here.

Speaking on that occasion, Comrade Jozef Koblialka expressed deep thanks to Comrade Chea Soth for granting him this audience and to the party and government of the State of Cambodia for providing all kinds of assistance that has enabled him to fulfill successfully his diplomatic mission. He expressed great joy over the stability and progress made by the State of Cambodia. He also pledged to inform the Polish party and government of the realities in Cambodia and voiced full support for the State of Cambodia's goodwilled stance.

In his reply, Comrade Chea Soth highly valued the efforts made by the Polish ambassador and said the immense achievements scored by the State of Cambodia are attributable to the support and assistance given by friendly countries, including Poland.

'Readjustment' for More Officials Ordered

BK2809131390 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1109 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] In a sub-law decree of the Council of Ministers issued on Sept. 1, Im On, deputy head of the People's Committee of Takeo Province, was relieved of his post and put under control. Tuch Marim, provisional deputy secretary of the party committee of Takeo Province, was appointed standing deputy head of the People's Committee of Takeo Province.

In a decree of the State Council issued on the same day, Sun Sakhan, head of the Provincial People's Committee of Takeo, was relieved of his post and put under control.

In another decree of the State Council issued on August 25, Samret Sakhan, head of the Provincial People's Committee of Kompong Speu, was relieved of his post and put under control, and Monh Kosal, secretary of the party committee of the provincial town of Kandal, was appointed head of the people's committee of Kompong Speu Province.

For the same purpose, the party Central Committee in a working session on Sept. 4 decided among other things to relieve He Kan of his post of standing member of the Phnom Penh Municipal Party Committee and deputy head of the Municipal People's Committee, and put him under control.

Besides the readjustment of the functions of party, government and provincial officials aimed at ensuring an effective leadership of the party and an efficacious administration of the state, the party Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea also launched an appeal, in late August, to the authorities at all levels to wage a vigorous struggle against corruption by taking measures to get rid of all negative phenomena in the society.

Since last month, nearly 40 officials have been relieved of their posts, transferred or promoted.

Takeo Provincial Cadres 'Expelled' From Party

BK2909134890 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 29 Sep 90

["Communique of the party Central Committee Political Bureau on the outcome of the investigation by the combined control commission of two leading cadres in Takeo Province"; dated 29 September—read by announcer]

[Text] In accordance with the spirit of the decision of the party Central Committee Political Bureau at the 1 September 1990 session, the combined Control Commission—comprising representatives from the Interior Ministry, the party Central Committee's Control Commission, the Central Committee's Organization Commission, and the control services—with the cooperation of the Takeo Provincial Party Committee and People's Committee, investigated the case of inappropriateness of two cadres in Takeo Province.

The party Central Committee Political Bureau at a session on 29 September 1990 listened to reports on the outcome of the investigation by this combined commission and decided the following:

1. Comrade Sun Sakhan, former deputy secretary of the provincial party committee and chairman of the provincial people's committee, is disciplined by being expelled from the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party [KPRP], and stripped of his function as chairman of the Takeo Provincial People's Committee to become an ordinary person; all the wealth he pilfered from state property is confiscated.
2. Comrade Im On, former member of the provincial party committee and former vice chairman of the Takeo Provincial People's Committee, is disciplined by being expelled from the KPRP and stripped of his function as vice chairman of the provincial people's committee to become a specialist staff.

[Dated] Phnom Penh, 29 September 1990

Council Creates 'National Construction' Medal

BK2809104890 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0507 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK September 28—The Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia has decided to create the "National Construction" medal for conferring on any Cambodian or group of Cambodians, at home or abroad, for their material contribution to the national construction of Cambodia.

Under the Council of Ministers' decree released recently, the "National Construction" medal, first class, will be conferred on any person who donates two million riels (Cambodian currency) upward; the second class medal on a person who contritutes one million riels or more; and the third class medal on a person who gives at least 500,000 riels.

KPNLF Issues Communique on Failure of Talks

BK2909014290 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 2300 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] The Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF] has stated the Hanoi Vietnamese Government and the Vietnamese- installed Heng Samrin-Hun Sen regime in Phnom Penh are responsible for the deadlock of the peace process and the continued bloodshed and suffering of the people in Cambodia.

In a press communique issued yesterday, the KPNLF pointed out until the election of the chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC], no representative from the Phnom Penh regime can occupy the seat of Cambodia in the United Nations, in the UN specialized agencies, and in other international institutions and international conferences.

The communique says: The KPNLF, which has used its military force to compel Vietnam to accept negotiations on Cambodia's peace settlement, has successively agreed to compromise with the Vietnamese-installed regime in Phnom Penh to end Vietnam's aggression and the Cambodian people's suffering. The KPNLF has accepted the formula for establishing the SNC by agreeing to have only two seats and allowing the Phnom Penh regime to occupy up to six seats.

At the 17 September meeting, Hun Sen intentionally violated the Jakarta agreement by rejecting the SNC chairman, who should be the 13th member, and demanding the addition of another member as well as the SNC vice chairmanship.

The KPNLF further stated that the demand for concession after concession and the rejection of the Jakarta agreement is clear evidence the puppet has the intention of creating obstacles to the Cambodian peace process but has no willingness whatsoever to bring the Cambodian people's suffering to an end. The KPNLF stressed the Hanoi Vietnamese and Phnom Penh puppets are responsible for the setback and called on the five major powers—which are the permanent members of the UN Security Council and have forged the peace framework document for Cambodia—and the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia, who have helped achieve the Jakarta agreement, to fully use their powers to bring about the correct implementation of that agreement.

Rejection of Sihanouk as SNC Head Criticized

BK0110030090 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 30 Sep 90

["Article": "Why Have Vietnam and Phnom Penh Vigorously Opposed the Jakarta Agreement and the Five Documents of the United Nations Five Permanent members?"]

[Text] Hun Sen has refused to accept Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC] as defined in the Jakarta agreement and the five documents of the permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC]. Hun Sen has also set one condition after another to prevent the four Cambodian parties from selecting the SNC chairman.

Why? It is because:

1. If the SNC becomes a full-fledged organization with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as its chairman, it will become the sole legitimate organization of Cambodia during the transitional period.
2. Once the SNC has a chairman, the Paris International Conference will certainly be held to reach an agreement on a comprehensive settlement based on the five basic documents of the UNSC permanent members.

These are the standpoints that Vietnam and Phnom Penh are afraid of. This is because once the five documents are fully approved at the Paris International Conference, it would mean that Vietnam must withdraw all categories of its aggressor forces from Cambodia under the supervision of the UN international peacekeeping force.

SRV Troops, Arms Said Shipped to Battambang

BK2909055090 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Excerpt] Between 19 and 21 September, the Vietnamese aggressors sent two convoys of fresh troops and armaments from Phnom Penh to Battambang Province. One convoy with 60 trucks and another with 50 trucks had a total of 700 Vietnamese soldiers. Between 10 and 20 September, three convoys of trains carried armaments and forcibly drafted Cambodian soldiers to the province as well. [passage omitted]

Resistance Leaders Greet PRC Anniversary

BK0110080290 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 30 Sep 90

["Full text" of "message of warm greetings to the Chinese leaders and people on the 41st anniversary of the founding of the PRC" from "the leaders of the Cambodian National Government and Cambodian national resistance forces"]

[Text] Respectfully to His Excellency Yang Shangkun, president of the PRC; His Excellency Li Peng, prime minister of the Chinese State Council, Beijing.

Esteemed excellencies: On the auspicious 41st founding anniversary of the glorious PRC, we would like to extend our sincerest and warmest greetings to your excellencies and, through you, to the Chinese government and the heroic and friendly Chinese people in the name of the Cambodian National Government, the Cambodian national resistance forces, and the Cambodian people. We would also like to extend best wishes for your excellencies and the other leaders of great China to enjoy perfect health and long life, and the Chinese people and the PRC to enjoy greater progress in conformity with the clear-sighted policy of modernization set forth by Chairman Deng Xiaoping.

In the past 12 years, firmly adhering to their unswerving political stance of upholding justice and respecting and defending the rights to independent existence of all peoples and nations, large or small, in the world, the Chinese government and people have constantly given all kinds of immense and wholehearted support and assistance to the Cambodian people's just struggle for independence, peace, and defense of Cambodian national survival.

Thanks to this valuable support rendered by the Chinese government and people, as well as other peace- and justice-loving peoples and nations across the world, our Cambodian people have surmounted all kinds of difficulties in their struggle and entered a period in which we can clearly see the victory for our Cambodian people's just cause.

Taking this opportunity, we would like to express our sincerest and warmest thanks for this. Please, your excellencies, accept our highest and sincerest regards.

[Dated] 14 September 1990
[Signed] Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Cambodia and of the Cambodian national resistance forces;
[Signed] Son Sann, prime minister of the Cambodian National Government;

[Signed] Khieu Samphan, vice president of Cambodia in charge of foreign affairs.

Indonesia

Diplomat Reports Embassy in Kuwait Intact

BK2909054690 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0401 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Selangor, Sept 29 (OANA-ANTARA)—Indonesian Embassy in Nusha District, Kuwait, was reported to have received no intrusion by Iraqi troops, Indonesian Interim Charge d'Affaires Muzakir Ahmad confirmed here late Friday.

The official, who led 41 Indonesian workers coming back from Kuwait, arrived at Subang International Airport, Malaysia Friday in a transit.

The Iraqi Government has ordered foreign embassies in Kuwait to close offices as of September 24 following its annexation of the tiny oil-rich country.

The Indonesian Embassy was not located in diplomat residential area, said Ahmad, adding that the situation around the embassy was normal unlike that in the diplomat residential area. The latter area where many troops were deployed was reported to be in a tense situation.

Official on Possible Placement of PRC Reporters

BK2909054390 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0403 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Banda Aceh, Sept 29 (OANA-ANTARA)—The Ministry of Information so far had not received any request for placement of Chinese reporters in Indonesia, an official of the ministry, Kosky Zakaria, confirmed here Friday.

Answering a question on possible placement of Chinese journalists here, the official further said, however, such a request might be forwarded after diplomatic relations between the two countries were normalized last August. He pointed at possible placement of either reporters or correspondents of China's XINHUA news agency in Jakarta. That possibility cannot be ruled out, it's a consequence of the normalization, he said.

However, permission for assignment of foreign journalists here should be given more selectively, he said. Circulation of papers and magazines written in Chinese characters was still banned by the government, he warned. The official called on the press to give report on anyone keeping or trying to disseminate printed media written in Chinese.

Minister Announces Easing of Press Controls

BK0110094390 Hong Kong AFP in English 0449 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Jakarta, Sept 30 (AFP)—The Indonesian Government has further eased control over the national press, promising that it will no longer revoke the publishing licenses of newspapers, press reports said Sunday.

Coordinating Minister for Political and Security Affairs Sudomo said late Saturday the government would instead take newspapers to court if they violate the country's press law or code of ethics. "We feel revoking the publishing license is not educative, does not conform to the principle of the nation that upholds the law, and the effect on workers would be very hard," the MEDIA INDONESIA daily quoted Mr. Sudomo as saying.

There is no formal censorship in Indonesia but the government excercises strong control over newspapers through the use, or the threat of using, its right to revoke publishing licenses.

One of Jakarta's leading newspapers, SINAR HARAPAN, was banned in 1986 and another Jakarta daily, PRIORITAS, suffered the same fate the following year. Both have since reappeared under different names, but only after a major overhaul of their management. Several publications, including MEDIA INDONESIA, had already drawn final warnings and one more offence would have led to their revocations and their virtual closures, editors here said.

Mr. Sudomo made the announcement after a meeting of all the ministries under his charge to review the security and political situation in the country. The meeting agreed that the threat of license revocation had created fears among newspaper publishers and staff and this did not conform to the principle of freedom of expression, he said.

The minister last month, after a similar meeting, announced that the government would no longer telephone newspapers to bar certain stories from appearing as in the past. He said the press was free to run any article as long as they could take responsibility for it. He also said that newspapers were no longer barred from publishing articles about the Group of 50 dissident organisation.

This opportunity did not go unnoticed as newspapers and magazines have since started to run articles about the group, whose members include retired military officers and civil servants who served under President Suharto in the early years of his rule. Mr. Suharto, who has ruled Indonesia since 1967, in his Independence Day speech last month promised greater tolerance for difference of opinion to enhance political life in the country.

Laos

Government Seeks Opening to Outside World

BK2809125290 Hong Kong AFP in English 1000 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Vientiane, Sept 28 (AFP)—After a long period of isolation, Laos is trying to improve its links with the outside world, particularly China and Thailand, a government official said here Friday. But the Marxist state also wants to preserve its special relationship with Vietnam, said Deputy Foreign Affairs Ministers Soulivong Phasitthidet in an interview with AGENCE FRANCE- PRESSE.

"Strengthening our special relationship and cooperation with Vietnam is a key factor in protecting and developing Laos," Mr. Phasittidet said. "For three years, we have maintained a policy of opening up, which is already giving us a good outlook for the future, especially on the economy, without prejudicing our relations with Vietnam and Cambodia," he added.

The policy has already brought results in new relations with Thailand and the current normalisation of ties with China, both countries with which Laos has border disputes. "We have normalized our relations with China in almost all areas, particularly in trade, which is increasing, and border talks continuing," Mr. Phasittidet said.

Chinese Government officials signed a document in Vientiane Thursday which provides for a survey of the border markers, with particular reference to the maps of both countries. "The border problem that we have with Thailand is only one part of normalisation (of relations) with that country," said Mr. Phasittidet, also noting a dispute over anti-communist Laotian guerrillas operating from bases in Thailand. Laos, one of the poorest countries in the world, also wanted good relations with capitalist countries like the United States, Japan, and France, the minister said.

Laotian Prime Minister Kaysone Phomvihan visited Japan and France late last year, his first trip to capitalist countries since the communists came to power here in 1975.

"Our relations with Japan are excellent, as are those with France and our relations with the United States offer fresh opportunities," Mr. Phasittidet said. "We're working well together in the search for American soldiers missing (in action in the Vietnam war) and Washington knows now that we are determined to fight against the traffic in drugs," he said. The United States has long exerted pressure on Vientiane to take effective action against opium and marijuana producers and traffickers. Laos is a major producer of those drugs and the United States has made a crackdown on drugs a condition for economic aid for Vientiane.

"We want to open up to the outside (world) without any political bias but on the basis of respect for the sovereignty and independence of Laos."

Minutes of Meeting Signed With PRC Group

BK2709162890 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] A ceremony was held in Vientiane this morning for the signing of memorandum of the first meeting between the technical border teams of Laos and China which was held here from 23 to 27 September. During the meeting, the two sides agreed on the aerial photography plan and other technical details. The two sides also discussed and studied the Lao-Sino border line based on the French-Chinese additional convention of 1895. The meeting proceeded in a good atmosphere of cordiality and mutual understanding. Both sides agreed to hold the next round of meetings in Beijing soon.

Signing the memorandum on the Lao side was Chaleun Valinthasak, head of the Technical Lao-Sino Border Team and (Cheng Pomian), head of the Technical Sino-Lao Border Team, on the Chinese side. The signing ceremony was witnessed by Deputy Foreign Minister Soulivong Phasitthidet and Liang Feng, PRC ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Laos.

Vientiane Mayor Receives PRC Trade Delegation

OW2609185990 Vientiane KPL in English 0910 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Vientiane, Sept 26 (KPL)—Mr Sisavath Keobounphan, Politburo member of the Lao PRP CC [People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee], mayor of Vientiane municipality, yesterday received here a trade and economic delegation of the Chinese Guangxi Province.

The mayor of Vientiane voiced on the occasion his satisfaction over the relations of friendship and cooperation between the Lao people and the People's Republic of China, which have increasingly developed to the ardent aspiration of the governments and peoples of the two countries.

Leaders Greet PRC Officials on National Day

BK3009120190 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] On the occasion of the 41st founding anniversary of the PRC, Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan, secretary general of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee [LPRP CC]; Comrade Phoumi Vongvichit, acting president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR]; and Comrade Nouhak Phoumsavan, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of the LPDR, jointly sent a congratulatory message to Comrade Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee; Comrade Yang Shangkun, president of the PRC; Comrade Li Peng, premier of the State Council of the PRC; and Comrade Wan Li, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress [NPC] of the PRC, in Beijing. The message reads:

On the occasion of the 41st founding anniversary of the PRC, on behalf of the LPRP CC, the government and the SPA of the LPDR, the entire Lao people, and in our own names, we would like to extend warm salutations, sincere congratulations, and best wishes to you, comrades, and, through you, to the CPC Central Committee, the government and the NPC of the PRC, and the entire Chinese people.

Throughout the past 41 years, under the leadership of the CPC, the Chinese people have endeavored to overcome numerous difficulties and have gradually scored satisfactory achievements in defending and building their own country, resulting in growth and development in the economic, cultural, social, technological, and scientific fields and in the improvement of the people's material and spiritual life on the basis of socialism, thereby allowing them to continue building the socialist system—the system which conforms to the aspirations of the Chinese people.

The Lao party, government, and people would like to express their wholehearted congratulations to the Chinese people for having recorded such successes. We firmly believe the longstanding traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between the Lao and Chinese peoples will continue to be continually developed for the interests of the Lao and Chinese peoples and for peace, security, and cooperation in Asia and the world. On this auspicious occasion, we wish the Chinese people, under the leadership of the CPC, new and greater achievements in fulfilling their tasks of national defense and construction to bring more wealth, strength, and prosperity to the PRC.

On the same occasion, Comrade Phoun Sipaseut, LPDR foreign minister, also sent a similar congratulatory message to Comrade Qian Qichen, foreign minister of the PRC, in Beijing.

Phoumi Vongvichit Greets Summit on Children

BK2909153490 Vientiane KPL in English 0938 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Vientiane, Sept 29 (KPL)—The acting president of the Lao PDR [Lao People's Democratic Republic], Mr. Phoumi Vongvichit, yesterday sent a message to the chairman of the summit confernce on children being held in New York, saying that the summit has brought together many heads of states and governments in the world, which reflects the attention and concern on the international community over the health and education of children, the future of the mankind.

The message also indicated since the declaration by the UN of the International Day of Children in 1979, the Lao National Commission for Children's International Day in coordination with the UNICEF has been actively committed to mother and child care as well as to the education of the new generation. The international aid has brought about a considerable reduction in the food shortage and in the death rate of children in Laos. Despite the effort, the development in the area does not yet satisfy our demand. School facilities, educational aids, and clothes for children are still very short. In face of such a situation, we therefore hope that the UNICEF and other international organisations concerned would provide more help and cooperation for the survival and development of Lao children, the message added.

Phoumi Vongvichit Receives Message From SRV

BK2809152490 Vientiane KPL in English 0905 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Vientiane, Sept 28 (KPL)—Phoumi Vongvichit, Politburo member of the LPRP CC [Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee] and president of the Lao Front for National Construction [LFNC] Central Committee, has received a message of thanks from Nguyen Huu Tho, president of the Presidium of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee.

The message expressed sincere thanks for the LFNC president's greetings on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the Vietnamese National Day. It wished for the further strengthening and development of the special friendship, solidarity, and all-round cooperation between the two fronts and peoples of the two countries.

Kaysone Phomvihan Receives Thanks From Mongolia

BK2909154090 Vientiane KPL in English 0937 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Vientiane, Sept 29 (KPL)—Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lao PDR [Lao People's Democratic Republic] recently recived a message of thanks from Dashiyn Byambasuren, prime minister of the Mongolian People's Republic for his congratulations on the occasion of the latter's election to the post.

Wishing the Lao leader good health and success, the message expressed the belief that the existing frindship between the two countries would be further developed and strengthened with new content and form.

Philippines

Reportage on Strike by Workers at U.S. Bases

HK0110025990 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Hundreds of Filipinos, demanding a wage hike, demonstrated in front of the two U.S. military bases last night. The Federation of Filipino Civilian Employees Association representing 22,000 workers from Subic, Clark, and four other small U.S. facilities staged the protest action. Around 700 workers with placards saying that they were protesting against the current salary scale, lined up in front of Subic Base, Olongapo City. More workers demonstrated in front of Clark Air Base in Angeles City. According to union president Roberto

Flores, the workers demand a 17 percent increase which is opposed to the 3.5 percent accorded them.

U.S. Serviceman Attacked at Subic

HK0110133590 Hong Kong AFP in English 1308 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Clark Air Base, Philippines, Oct (AFP)—The Philippine military stepped up security Monday around two U.S. military bases amid a strike launched by 22,000 Philippine civilian workers, official sources said.

U.S. military spokesmen said Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base were operating normally, even though one American serviceman had been attacked by strikers Saturday. At Subic Naval Base west of here, violence erupted less than two hours after the strike began late Saturday when a group of strikers attacked an off-duty American serviceman who had jeered the pickets, witnesses said. The unidentified soldier was rushed to the base hospital with a bloodied face, they added.

Philippine military officials said uniformed security men and intelligence operatives had been deployed in all picket sites to stop any attempt by communist insurgents to infiltrate the strikers' ranks and instigate violence.

Communist insurgents, who oppose the presence of U.S. bases in this country, have threatened to mount attacks against the bases in the past. They have killed eight U.S. military personnel since 1987 and bombed a U.S. radio transmitting tower near Clark last month.

The military also said two platoons of troops had been dispatched to Clark to augment existing joint U.S.-Philippine patrols of the base perimeter.

"Hopefully the strike will be short, but all U.S. facilities have contingency plans and all missions will continue to be carried out," Lieutenant Commander Kevin McCrea, spokesman for the U.S. Pacific Command, said.

A union representing 22,000 Philippine civilian base workers launched a strike at Clark Air Base, Subic Naval Base, and four smaller facilities to protest Washington's 1990 national budget which provides for a 3.5 per cent wage increase. The bases employ about 79,000 Philippine civilians, of which about 23,000 are full-time workers.

Clark is the headquarters of the U.S. 13th Air Force, responsible for air defense of the Western Pacific and a portion of the Indian Ocean. Subic is the main logistics support and repair yard of the Japan-based U.S. 7th Fleet.

The strikers say that under a collective bargaining agreement they signed with the U.S. military, they are entitled to wage increases equal to those given employees of the Philippines' top 36 corporations, which averaged 18.5 per cent this year.

Lt. Cmdr. McCrea said U.S. authorities cancelled all leave for Philippine workers following the strike declaration, and warned that those failing to report to work would be considered "absent without leave" and lose their pay for the duration of their absence.

At Subic, about 3,000 Philippine workers massed near the main gate of the facility early Monday and began a picket as riot police stood nearby, witnesses said.

Platt Says Exemption Sought

BK3009151590 Hong Kong AFP in English 1452 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Olongapo, Philippines, Sept 30 (AFP)—Filipino workers in all U.S. military bases in the Philippines staged a strike Sunday to protest alleged U.S. violation of a wage agreement with the workers' union, labor leaders here said.

Primo Galvez, an official of a Federation of Filipino Base Workers representing 22,000 Filipinos, said the strike was aimed at protesting Washington's 1990 General Appropriations Act, which provides only a 3.5 per cent wage increase.

He said a base labor agreement signed in 1968 provided that Filipino base workers are entitled to wage increases equal to the average given to workers of the Philippines' top 36 corporations.

Salary increases are granted to base workers every October, Mr. Galvez said, adding that Filipino base workers were entitled to an 18 per cent rise this year.

"We just want the U.S. authorities to implement the base labor agreement," Mr. Galvez said, adding that workers in Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base, the two largest overseas U.S. bases, are picketing the base gates. "We will continue our strike until our demands are met," he added.

U.S. Ambassador to the Philippines Nicholas Platt has said U.S. authorities were seeking an exemption on salary hike caps for Filipino workers.

Reportage on Bombings, Explosions Continues

Explosion Outside Procter Gamble

HK2909063990 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 0600 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] A bomb exploded near the office of Procter Gamble Company in Manila early this morning. Law enforcement agents reported no casualties from the explosion, the 37th to take place in Manila in seven weeks. It destroyed the pavement in front of a drugstore as well as of Procter Gamble Philippines Manufacturing Corporation's administration building.

Authorities suspect that the explosion is the handiwork of rebels out to topple the government.

Explosion Outside Vicks Subsidiary

HK2909051590 Hong Kong AFP in English 0454 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Excerpt] Manila, Sept 29 (AFP) - A homemade fragmentation bomb was hurled at the wall of the local subsidiary of Vicks International on Saturday, slightly injuring a bystander, police and eyewitnesses said.

Two men in a car without license plates were seen throwing the bomb at the factory's concrete wall just before it went off. A bystander was slightly injured by shrapnel, but the bomb caused no damage to the wall. [passage omitted]

Official Claims Manila Safe

HK2909062590 Manila DWIZ Radio News 882 in Tagalog 0400 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Capital Region Command [Capcom] chief and Metropolitan Police Force [MPF] director Marino Filart affirmed that Metro Manila is now safe and secure despite a series of bombings launched by terrorists. According to Filart, they have prepared contingency plans to deal with expected rallies and strikes by workers, students and other sectors in connection with the increase of petroleum.

Filart also said that the bombers' intention was to scare off investors and multinational firms in the country and thus deal a devastating blow to the country's economy. He asked the public to help the military and the police stop the bombings by reporting all suspicious activities of possible bombers. The public need only call the emergency telephone number 7575 and police number 166, both lines are open 24 hours a day.

Explosion Outside Labor Department

HK0110050590 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 1 Oct 90 pp 1, 6

[By staff members Jun Magno and Manny Mogato]

[Text] A bomb exploded just outside the Department of Labor and Employment (Dole) building in Intramuros at about noon yesterday.

Labor Secretary Ruben Torres, who rushed to the scene, told the CHRONICLE the bomb had been flung short of the window of the Human Resource Development Services office by just 10 inches. "Had it not hit the concrete overhang, the explosion could have set the building on fire," Torres said. The explosion shattered glass panes and damaged ceilings, but no one was reported hurt.

A Dole employee said a security guard from another building witnessed the bombing. The guard saw a man get out of a car parked in the alley behind the Dole building and fire what appeared to be a grenade from a rifle, and speed away in the car.

However, a Western Police District (WPD) bomb expert who searched the area found no grenade shrapnel. Torres said the bomb could have been a just a "pillbox" (a small homemade bomb) thrown from a vacant lot behind the building, although residents there said they saw and could say nothing to fortify that theory.

In Davao City, soldiers and police were placed on alert in anticipation of a "Welgang Bayan" [nationwide strike] planned for today by workers and students to protest oil-price and fare increases and demand, in the case of the workers, a raise.

Reports reaching Camp Aguinaldo, the armed forces headquarters in Quezon City, said the situation in Davao City had remained tense since Friday's death of an old woman inside the house of Local Government Secretary Luis Santos. The bullet that killed her was believed meant for Santos, although military investigators were inclined to believe the shooting was accidental.

A senior armed forces official in the region told the CHRONICLE of his apprehension that both leftwing and rightwing groups could exploit the strike.

The rightists, he said, might stage a military uprising to relieve pressure on the forces of renegade Col. Alexander Noble, said to be trapped in a villge in Esperanza, Agusan del Sur. Such a rightist plan, codenamed "Kagawasan," was contained in documents captured by the military last week.

Brig. Gen. Ramberto Saavedra, armed forces chief for civil relations, was sent to Davao to assess the situation there. A marine battalion was also sent to quell any civil disturbance. Camp Aguinaldo authorities, however, played down the situation in Davao City, saying the military leadership had the support of all senior military commanders in Mindanao.

According to the rightist plan, several government buildings, including the local Central Bank office and the city legislative council building, will be seized, along with public utilities. Troops sympathetic to the rebel cause will meanwhile seize communication and power centers. The intelligence agents even identified the officers and military units in the plot.

The Davao situation has been made even more tense by the reported kidnapping of 12 Cafgu [Citizen Armed Force Geographical Unit] militiamen from a remote village in Kiblawan town, Davao del Sur, by communist guerrillas. Soldiers of the 46th Infantry Battalion and local police have been dispatched to track down the kidnappers, about 200 of them.

U.S.-Owned Paint Factory Bombed

HK0110105590 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 1 October 90

[Text] Another multinational company was rocked by a strong explosion at 0426 this morning at Mandaluyong, Metro Manila. The company was identified as the Fuller O'Brien Paint Company Incorporated located at the corner of Reliance and Sheridan Streets in that district.

Based on reports received by the DZRH News Center, it was learned that a C-4 type bomb was used in the explosion by still unidentified men suspected to be rebel soldiers of the RAM-SFP [Reform the Armed Forces Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino People]. There were no reported fatalities or injuries resulting from the incident which caused a large amount of damage to the company's warehouse. A security guard was interviewed by our correspondent Jess Garcia and here is part of his statement.

[Begin recording] [Guard] The light here on my side was still on because my companion and I changeover duties at 0420. Then at 0426 there was an explosion, that's why I crawled all the way to this drum, and I saw thick smoke. So, I had to observe first before I ran to my companions at the guardhouse. I was thinking [words indistinct]. The first thing we discovered was the broken doors, um, windows.

[Garcia] Didn't you notice anything after the explosion, if there was a fleeing car or men running away from the scene?

[Guard] None. [end recording]

Company Vice President Comments

HK0110021390 Hong Kong AFP in English 0210 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Manila, Oct 1 (AFP)—Unknown men tossed explosives into the Philippine factory of the U.S. paint manufacturer Fuller O'Brien in suburban Manila before dawn Monday, causing some damage but no injuries, a company official said. The attack was the eighth against U.S. multinational firms here in the past week. The government has blamed right-wing military rebels for most of the blasts.

The unspecified explosive device tore a hole through the concrete wall of a warehouse, broke glass windows and ripped away part of the ceiling of a nearby building, company vice president Eriberto Pineda said. No one was in the premises when the bombing occurred and police were investigating the incident, he added.

Iraqis Reportedly Kill 5 Philippine Mercenaries

HK3009070490 Hong Kong AFP in English 0652 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Manila, Sept 30 (AFP) - Five of about 50 Filipinos employed as mercenaries by the underground resistance in Iraqi- occupied Kuwait have been caught and hanged in public by Iraqi soldiers, a newspaper here reported Sunday.

The DAILY GLOBE quoted Filipinos who returned here Saturday from Jordan as saying about 50 compatriots, desperate for food and money, had signed up for the underground resistance and that five of them were captured and hanged.

Roger Pacheco, a 39-year-old aide at a Kuwaiti medical institute, was quoted as saying many foreigners, including the Filipinos, were promised 50,000 Kuwaiti dinars (about 170,000 dollars) for every Iraqi soldier killed.

At least 30 dead Iraqi soldiers had been turned in by Filipinos, he said, adding that a bigger amount was given to the mercenaries when a murdered Iraqi's gun and shoulder patch were turned over. The recruitment of foreign mercenaries began on August 24, he said.

The newspaper said Mr. Pacecho's account was supported by his wife, Elizabeth, 35, who worked in the same institute, and three other returnees, but the report could not be independently confirmed.

Mr. Pacecho was quoted as saying the Filipino mercenaries preferred to use knives instead of guns, which had been distributed by the Kuwaiti resistance. He said the Filipino resistance fighters went about their usual work in daytime, but struck at night far away from their workplaces to avoid suspicion.

The Filipinos had joined the resistance out of desperation, Mr. Pacheco said. "The prices of goods in Kuwait have gone sky high," he said. The report did not say how Mr. Pacheco fled from Kuwait and gave no details about the hanging of the five Filipino mercenaries.

Helicopter Gunships Arrive for Counterinsurgency

HK0110051990 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 1 Oct 90 pp 1, 6

[By staff member Howie Severino]

[Text] The arrival last week of the first of 22 helicopter gunships from the United States brings vitally needed air support for ground troops fighting the New People's Army [NPA].

Defense officials also said the McDonnell-Douglas MG520 gunships were bought with foreign military sales credits from the Military Bases Agreement despite objections from American defense officials.

"The U.S. wanted to give us their leftover Hueys," said an air force officer on the staff of the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Weapons Review Board, referring to the standard helicopters the military is now using for counterinsurgency. "But the Hueys are clumsy and noisy. The MG520 suits our needs. We insisted on it. This is the first major weapons procurement decision we made on our own."

Senior military officers said the small, highly maneuverable MG520s would enable the military to respond within minutes to most ground engagements with the enemy. Combat officers have complained that it often takes hours before helicopters can assist besieged soldiers, if they arrive at all.

"These helicopters will be deployed at the brigade level," said the air force chief, Gen. Gerardo Protacio. "They fill a frontline gap. They will also be a deterrent to ambuscades because the enemy will know they are there." The larger Hueys (UNIH) and Sikorsky AUH76 helicopters the military is now using for counterinsurgency fly from area command headquarters, far from many areas of conflict.

Analysts say they expect the deployment of the new gunships to quicken the tempo of the government drive to defeat the NPA by 1992. However, they can't be deployed sooner than mid-1991 because of delays in their delivery, according to Protacio. Four of the gunships arrived last Thursday after a delay of over a month due to the U.S. military airlift to the Middle East.

Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos wrote U.S. Defense Secretary Richard Cheney last year asking for the delivery to be pushed up to the first quarter of 1990 and emphasizing the gunships' importance to the government's counterinsurgency campaign.

According to an air force source, the military had been requesting the U.S. for the gunships for the past three years, but U.S. defense officials had initially resisted because the MG520s had to be specially ordered. "They wanted us to take what they were already using," said the source. "But we said, anyway these are manufactured by an American company."

Senior officers said they preferred the MG520s to the Hueys and Sikorskys because they are lighter, faster, easier to maneuver and disassemble, and much less noisy. "The enemy won't know it's there until it's on top of them, that's how quiet it is," said Gen. Lisandro Abadia, the Philippine Army's chief of operations, himself a pilot. "It gives us a fast-reaction capability almost anywhere."

The 22 MG520s, equipped with 2.75 rockets and 50-cal. machine guns, will be part of the Composite Air Support of the Air Force (Casaf), where it will join 12 Sikorsky and 70 Huey helicopters.

Actually, 28 of them were promised, but only 22 will be delivered by next year because of what Philippine officials call the shortfall in military assistance from the U.S. The helicopters cost approximately U.S.$1.2 million each.

Six PAF [Philippine Air Force] pilots who trained in Arizona this year will be training Philippine pilots over the next year.

Thailand

Officials Leave for U.S., Try To End Deadlock

BK3009015690 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 Sep 90 p A2

[By Kunlachada Chaiphiphat and Yindi Loetcharoenchok]

[Excerpts] Two senior Foreign Ministry officials left Friday night for New York where they are to hold talks with their counterparts from ASEAN countries and the five super powers in an attempt to break the Cambodian deadlock.

Permanent Secretary K.R. Kasem Samoson Kasemsi and Political Affairs Director-General Sarot Chawanawirat were to join Foreign Minister Subin Pinkhayan who is currently in New York to address the UN General Assembly on Tuesday. Kasem and Sarot were among the Thai authorities, who were assigned last week by Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan to revive the first meeting of the Cambodian ruling national council, which ended in deadlock a week earlier. [passage omitted on material already reported]

Thai efforts to patch up the four conflicting parties' differences, last week were in vain when the resistance now went back to square one rejecting its earlier compliance with Sihanouk's proposal that Phnom Penh be allocated an additional seat. Apart from the extra seat, Phnom Penh has added another condition that it be given the council's vice chairmanship—a demand that has been unacceptable to the resistance so far.

An informed resistance source told THE NATION that Phnom Penh's latest stance is out of the question and that it can never be accepted. The resistance, said the source, had already made "a lot of concessions but the other side has not made any concession but keeps on asking for more." The source said the differences have gone further outside the Jakarta accord which meant that "we all have to go back to Jakarta and start the whole process again. "We see no other way to find a solution now if we don't start from the Jakarta accord once more," said the source.

Both the resistance and Phnom Penh have interpreted the Jakarta agreement differently. While the former said Sihanouk has the right to join the council [Supreme National Council [SNC]] as 13th member, the latter said the former monarch failed to show up in the Indonesian capital to be included in the 12-member council.

Sarot told THE NATION Friday night before his departure that differences remained between the two sides, and that Thailand would seek the assistance of other ASEAN members and the five permanent members of the UN Security Council to help resolve the matter. "Both sides are not prepared to settle their differences and believe that their positions and strategies are good," he said.

Under the present circumstance, the revival of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia might be an alternative to reviving the peace process with the all the SNC members invited to attend the forum, said an informed government source. But Prince Sihanouk's participation could then cause another uproar as the question of his chairing the council has not yet been settled, said the source, who insisted that the prince's role in the peace settlement is absolutely vital. The source, who asked not to be named, has expressed fear that the Cambodians might not be able to reach an agreement on the chairmanship by October 18, when an official Cambodian delegation is to be present at the UN General Assembly.

If the delegation does not materialize by then, the Cambodian seat at the United Nations, which has been held since 1985 by the resistance, would automatically go to the whole SNC.

Yotsuk on Status of Thai Workers in Middle East

BK2909040090 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Amnuai Yotsuk told reporters, concerning the situation of Thai workers in the Middle East, that at present none remain in Kuwait. Only three officials of the Thai Embassy remain there because the embassy has not yet been closed.

He said a total of 1,211 Thai workers have returned home from Iraq and only 700 Thai workers are still there. Of those, there should be no problem for 350, as the companies they worked for are ready to help send them home. The other 350 workers in Iraq are still not able to return home, because they have not yet completed their work contracts and their respective companies have not yet been available to help them. However, the Thai Government is always willing to assist if any of them want to return home, said Amnuai.

The deputy foreign minister went on to say that the Thai Government has already ordered a closure of the refugee camp for Thai workers in Jordan, effective yesterday. Officials from the Thai Embassy in Jordan will be sent to oversee the camp later on.

Concerning Thai workers in Saudi Arabia, there should be no cause for concern. Moreover, the Thai Embassy in Riyadh has sent a letter to inform the Thai Foreign Ministry that it had already sent $7,879.55 paid by the Saudi Arabian Government as compensation for 23 Thai workers who worked in Saudi Arabia. Therefore, the relatives of these workers can now contact the Foreign Ministry for the money.

Subsidy Still Needed After Oil Price Increase

BK2809112790 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] According to Sumit Chanmethi, business director of the Bangchak Petroleum Company, even after the 25 September oil price increase, which averaged 30 percent, the Oil Fund is still being depleted by 14-15 millon baht a day. Therefore, it is still necessary for the government to subsidize the price of imported refined products because they remain $3 higher than the locally refined product. The government subsidy to the local refineries is not necessary because the latest price adjustment matches the actual price of the locally refined oil. If the crude oil price comes down to $32 a barrel, then the Oil Fund will become balanced—no inflow or outflow.

Sumit says the latest government-announced oil price adjustment accurately reflects the real world oil price. It was announced while the crude oil price was $35 per barrel. If the crude price increases to $38 a barrel, another price increase may become necessary.

Sharp Increase in Oil Imports Reported Jan-Aug

BK3009024690 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] The Public Relations Center of the Petroleum Authority of Thailand [PTT] reported that the total value of oil imports to Thailand in the first eight months of this year—from January to August—increased sharply by 7,855 million baht over the same period last year. The imports included both refined and crude oil.

During the period, oil imports from the Middle East to Thailand have begun to decrease while the imports from the Far East have started to increase.

It is believed that if the Persian Gulf crisis continues, the price of oil would rise steadily to $50 per barrel. Therefore, the Thai Government has set a policy urging both the public and private sectors to economize on consumption of all kinds of energy. If all sides fully support the policy, the country's problem of oil imports should be minimized.

SRV Official Visits Refugees in Udon Thani

BK3009015590 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Sep 90 p 2

[Text] Vietnam's congress chairman Le Quang Dao visited Vietnamese refugees in Udon Thani yesterday.

MP [Member of Parliament] Sipanom Wichitworasan, member of the House committee for foreign affairs, and Somkhit Sisangkhom, adviser to the House committee, were on hand to welcome Mr Quang Dao.

Mr Quang Dao, visiting Thailand as a guest of parliament President Wan Chansu, also met ex-Army chief Chawalit Yongchaiyut at the provincial airport. During his visit, Mr Quang Dao would persuade Vietnamese refugees to return home and make a living by running private enterprise, Mr Sipanom said.

Meanwhile, sources in the Interior Ministry said Thailand is housing 398,512 Indochinese refugees and more than 250,000 Cambodians might move into the country through the Thai-Cambodian border at any time. Since 1975, 1,042,971 Indochinese refugees had come into Thailand, 644,459 of whom were resettled to third countries or returned home.

The Interior Ministry has planned to send 12,000 Indochinese refugees to third countries and 5,000 others back home each year, they said. The ministry also planned to curb down the annual increase in the number of the refugees sneaking into the country from 4.4 to 2.5 percent.

Khmer Refugees To Be Moved to Holding Center

BK0110023690 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 1 Oct 90 p 2

[Text] About 100,000 Khmer civilians loyal to the resistance and taking refuge along the Thai-Cambodian border will be moved into the Khao I Dang Holding Centre, according to a plan worked out by the Supreme Command and the Interior Ministry. The Supreme Command joint refugee direction centre and the Interior Ministry drafted the plan at a meeting on September 12 to establish better control of Khmer refugees and remove them from the dominance of armed resistance factions, sources said.

About 300,000 Khmer civilians live in eight camps along the border area. There is only enough room for about 100,000 in Khao I Dang and the rest will have to stay where they are. There are already 10,298 non-partisan Khmer refugees at Khao I Dang and the other 100,000 to be kept there will also be cut off from contact with outside forces.

Of the new group to be taken to Khao I Dang, 31,517 will be Khmer Rouge civilians from Si Sa Ket's Otrao area and Site K in Trat province, 8,838 will be Son Sann civilians from the Sok San area in Trat and 60,793 will be Sihanoukists from Site B in Surin province.

The plan is in line with the Thai Government policy of gradually reducing the number of refugee camps in the country to a single facility. Once the 100,000 Khmer are taken to Khao I Dang the other eight border camps will not take in more refugees.

Khao I Dang refugees will become non-partisan and the centre will be under the administration of the Thai authorities with the United Nations agencies taking care of the refugees and giving them vocational training for their return to Cambodia. The status of the refugees in Khao I Dang is temporary. They will not be eligible for resettlement in third countries except in special individual cases. They will also be voluntarily repatriated to Cambodia, sources said. The relocation budget will be 656 million baht and be sought from the UN and donor countries.

The plan has been forwarded to Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan and he has reportedly passed it for study by his advisers at Ban Phitsanulok, sources said. If the Prime Minister approves the plan it will be put into effect within a year. Meanwhile, Interior Ministry sources said they have also worked out a plan to decrease the number of refugee camps under their control to three camps by 1993. The plan has been approved by the National Security Council and the camps are to be the Chiang Kham camp in Phayao province for Hmong refugees from Ban Vinai in Loei, the Na Po camp in Nakhon Panom for lowland Laotians and Phanat Nikhom for Vietnamese refugees. All three camps are to hold a total of 80,000 refugees, sources said.

Refugee-Smuggling Ring Uncovered, Refugees Held

BK2909120490 Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 29 Sep 90 p 18

[Text] A team of local authorities in Aranyaprathet District, led by Police Major Raphiphong Suphonsi, raided a hut in the middle of a rice field in Tambon Ban Mai Nong Sai, Aranyaprathet District, Prachin Buri Province, on 27 September, taking into custody a group of 21 Cambodians. The Cambodian people told authorities that they were brought there by Bunthan Duangsamrit, Than Chatsiri, and Somya Chittaphon of House No. 141, Group Four Village, Tambon Ban Mai Nong Sai. The authorities took them for interrogation but did not get much information from the group.

A member of the group, Mr. Chang Ti, told the authorities that the group fled Cambodia because of food shortages. They were approached by certain Thai nationals who offered to take them to the refugee camps in Thailand in exchange for a sum of 1,500 baht per person. The group then tried to head for the refugee center via Ban Khok Sabaeng. They were brought to the hut by the three Thai.

Official Meets Red Cross President in Bangkok

BK2809151090 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Amnuai Yotsuk today received the visiting president of the International Red Cross Committee [IRCC], Cornelio Sommaragao, in Bangkok. He reported after the meeting that the IRCC president expressed sympathy to Thailand over the gas tanker explosion accident [on 24 September in Bangkok], which killed and injured many people. The IRCC did not offer help, and Thailand did not request it.

The deputy foreign minister said Thailand thanked the IRCC for refugee aid. The IRCC president said that refugees should not be repatriated to face risks at home. The minister explained that Thailand never resorted to forced repatriation. Repatriation is on a voluntary basis.

Concerning the suggestion by the IRCC president that illegal immigrants with non-refugee status should be allowed to stay at the Khao I-Dang holding center, Deputy Foreign Minister Amnuai said Thailand cannot comply because Khao I-Dang is an orientation center for those being processed for settlement in third countries. Illegal immigrants want to enter Khao I-Dang just to upgrade their status in order to be entitled to resettlement in third countries. Thailand, he said, cannot accept this.

Deputy Foreign Minister Amnuai also said the IRCC president wished to observe the situation at the Thai-Cambodian border where troops spilled over into Thailand. The IRCC also indicated its wish to help refugees from Burma in the same manner it helped those from Cambodia and Laos. Amnuai told the IRCC president that Cambodian soldiers who deserted the army into Thailand and were captured are not considered prisoners-of-war. He said that Thailand welcomed the IRCC's offer for refugee assistance at the Burmese border and is ready to support the move.

International Brokers Place 'Huge' Rice Order

BK0110003490 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 29 Sep 90 p 19

[Excerpts] International rice brokers surprised Thai rice exporters by placing a huge order for more than 100,000 tons of low- and medium- grade rice from Thailand.

The move came as brokers failed to obtain rice from Vietnam, which has adopted a new rice export policy, particularly concerning the Philippines. The sudden demand has caused the domestic rice price to rise by 10 baht per picul (60 kg) this week.

An informed Rice Exporters Association [REA] source said yesterday that several Vietnamese state enterprises cannot fulfill their commitments to foreign buyers, because the Vietnamese Government has decided to stop exports of rice, while trying to honour its deal with the Philippines. He said if the remaining shipment of Vietnamese rice is delayed, the Vietnamese Government is afraid Manila might switch to buying Thai rice.

So far, Thailand has shipped only 100,000 tons of 35 percent white rice to the Philippines of a 400,000 tons rice deal, because Manila has postponed the remaining shipment of 300,000 tons from the Commerce Ministry. The source said this is why foreign brokers, who had forward sales with foreign countries, have to resume buying Thai rice to meet their commitments.

Rice traders say more than 100,000 tons of rice were sold in mid-September and the shipments will be delivered next month. [passage omitted]

In the first nine months this year Thai rice exports dropped to only 2.8 million tons, compared with 4.9 million tons, compared with 4.9 million tons in the same period last year. The situation is expected to improve with higher demand. However, an REA source said exporters fear the Government may sell about 200,000 tons of 15 percent white rice to Soviet Union, which sent a delegation to negotiate with the Commerce Ministry this week.

The source said if the deal is concluded, domestic rice prices are likely to rise, resulting in exporters sustaining a heavy loss from forward contracts with international brokers.

Burmese Confirm Shooting of Four Thai Loggers

BK2909043790 Bangkok THE NATION in English 29 Sep 90 pp 1, 2

[By Somchit Rungchamratratsami]

[Text] Burmese border authorities confirmed yesterday that four missing Thai loggers had been accidentally shot dead by Burmese troops who thought they were Karen rebels.

The four—identified as Thawi Charoenphatthana, 37, Sompong Thuanthai, Manot Suriyabunsakun, 25, and Kung (surname unknown), had been missing in Burma since Sept 14, when they were logging at a border area opposite Tak's Mae Ramat District. The Burmese admitted to the killings during a meeting yesterday at Myawaddy of the Thai-Burmese border coordinating unit, saying that local forces shot at the Thais thinking they were Karen rebels, who have been fighting Rangoon for independence over the past four decades.

Thai sources, who attended the meeting, chaired by Task Force 34 commander Col [Colonel] Chalo Thongsala and his Burmese counterpart Lt Col [Lieutenant Colonel] Kyaw Myint, commander of the 97th battalion, said a Thai technical college teacher was also wounded by a stray bullet shell during the shooting.

The four Thais had received subcontracts to log in Burma from Sirin Technology Co, which had won an official timber concession from the Rangoon military junta. No Thai authorities were at hand to provide other information.

Sources said Thai officials initially thought the four were arrested, but when the issue was raised during the meeting, the Burmese officers admitted the deaths. But the Burmese side denied responsibility for an incident earlier this month in Thai territory, when stray shells seriously wounded Natthawut Phonlakhan, a young boy, and a Thai lady, Khing Thippawong, in Mae Ramat. The Burmese claimed that no shootings had ever occurred and that they could be the work of Karen rebels.

Col Kyaw Myint also rejected a Thai request to return the bodies of Somchet Khamratthana and Charan Anupha, who were shot dead in separate incidents on the border in late August, saying that Burma also shares a common border with China, India and Bangladesh and has no policy of returning dead bodies. During the forum, Thai authorities rejected a Burmese request to check all commuter boats on the Moei River for fear that they belonged to the Karen or were transporting food provisions or necessities to the rebels.

According to international law on the usage of common rivers, people from Thailand and Burma can use the river freely for transportation, sources quoted Col Chalo as telling the Burmese. Chalo added that as many Thai villagers live closer to the river than to land route water transport is crucial to them. He told the Burmese officers to inform local authorities not to perform checks, which the sources said would violate the international pact.

Burmese Embassy Reports Two Officials Missing

BK3009064390 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 Sep 90 p 2

[Text] The Burmese Embassy in Bangkok has asked Thailand to help locate two forestry authorities reportedly gone missing after completing their duties here. The Embassy said U Thant Zin and U Htay Lwin, both in their late 20s, failed to show up on Aug 27 at Don Muang Airport where they were to board a Burmese airline flight back to Rangoon, according to sources.

The Burmese were among an official team assigned to check, process and issue official documents for logs being shipped from Burma by Thailand's Prathumthani Tangkhakan Co Ltd. They were assigned to work at a border area in Kanchanaburi, 130 kms west of Bangkok. The sources said the two, who hold official 5-year travel documents, were last seen entering a taxi at the Racha Palace Hotel.

Upon receiving the request through the Foreign Ministry, the Interior Ministry circulated a letter asking for help to locate the missing men to provincial border authorities in Ranong, Chumphon, Prachuap Khiri Khan, Kanchanaburi, Tak, Mai Hong Son, Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai.

Since 1988 a number of Burmese forestry and customs officials have been sent here to process logs cut and sent from the country's eastern border areas.

Border Police Overrun Khun Sa Heroin Refinery

BK2909133990 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 29 Sep 90 p 1

[Text] Chiang Mai—A Thai border patrol police force yesterday overran a heroin refinery believed to belong to drug warlord Khun Sa on the Thai-Burmese border in Chiang Dao District and seized a number of weapons and heroin refining equipment after a brief clash with armed men guarding the plant.

Region 3 BPP [Border Patrol Police] commissioner Pol Lt-Gen [Police Lieutenant-General] Phairot Putsayanawin said at a press conference at Ban Nong Uk in Tambon Muang Na that the clash took place at about 5 a.m. after the 80-strong BPP unit surrounded the plant which was located in a valley.

The firefight lasted about 20 minutes after which some 20 armed men guarding the refinery fled. The BPP, after the clash, located the heroin production plant and seized a number of materials and equipment.

The plant was believed to be operated by a group of Chinese Haw tribesmen and guarded by Muong Tai Army (MTA) soldiers under Khun Sa judging from insignias and MTA uniforms left behind. Moreover, the area around the plant was heavily mined.

The BPP also seized two M-16 and two AK-47 rifles and rocket launchers and 155mm artillery rounds that were used by MTA soldiers. Pol Lt-Gen Phairot said the BPP had to hastily collect seized items and retreated to the school of Ban Nong Uk which is about 15 kilometres from the border for fear that the MTA soldiers might return and attack.

Only about 350 grammes of heroin was found at the plant because the BPP had to leave the area as soon as possible, he said. Two helicopters were called to bring reinforcements and pick up seized items.

Airline Official Arrested With 12 Kg of Heroin

BK2909032590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 29 Sep 90 p 4

[Text] Narcotics police arrested a Thai Airways International official yesterday after a brief car chase at Don Muang Airport led to the seizure of 12 kilogrammes of heroin found in his possession, police reported.

The heroin was found in suitcases in the car of Somchet Chamniankun, 35, an inspector attached to the THAI aircraft engine shop, at about 9 pm on Thursday, said Pol Lt Gen [Police Lieutenant General] Chawalit Yotmani, secretary general of the Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB).

The suitcases bore tags for Thai Flight 916, which was to depart for Amsterdam later that night, Chawalit told a press conference at the ONCB headquarters.

Somchet was intercepted by police as he was entering the airport to unload his suitcases. He then attempted to drive away. The suspect apparently was hoping to evade an inspection at the airport because of his position, Chawalit said.

Somchet was charged with possession of heroin with intent to sell yesterday and transferred to the Crime Suppression Division for questioning.

Vietnam

Nguyen Co Thach Meets Secretary of State Baker

BK3009075290 Hanoi VNA in English 0720 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA September 30—At their meeting in New York yesterday morning, Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker had useful and constructive discussion on issues of common concern.

This statement comes from a press communique released at the end of the meeting by the Vietnamese delegation. The communique says:

"The two sides acclaim the big efforts made by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and other countries concerned for working out a solution to the Cambodian issue, a solution conducive to peace and security in Southeast Asia. The two sides reaffirm their support for an early agreement on Cambodia to be finalized at the coming Paris International Conference.

"The two sides also agree upon the necessity to accelerate the settlement of humanitarian issues of common concern including the (MIA) issue and Vietnam's humanitarian demands. The two officials hold that alongside the process of a political solution to the Cambodian conflict, concrete measures should be taken to effect the normalization of the relations between the two countries.

"The two sides deem it necessary to maintain contacts through diplomatic channels."

The meeting between Nguyen Co Thach and James Baker was the highest-ranking official meeting and the fourth one since late July 1990 when the U.S. side decided to open direct talks with Vietnam.

Nguyen Co Thach Attends Asia-Pacific Meeting

BK3009120090 Hanoi VNA in English 1535 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA September 29—Nguyen Co Thach, vice-chairman of the Vietnamese Council of Ministers and foreign minister, attended an informal meeting of Asian-Pacific countries' foreign ministers, held in New York on September 27.

The meeting, jointly sponsored by Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas and Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, was attended by foreign ministers of Australia, Canada, Japan, Indonesia, China, South Korea, Laos, Mongolia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, the Soviet Union, the United States and Vietnam.

At the meeting, the participants exchanged ideas on issues relating to the Asia-Pacific region, including the Persian Gulf, Cambodia and the Korean peninsula, as well as on the cooperation among regional countries.

Minister Nguyen Co Thach also had private talks with foreign ministers of the Soviet Union, the United States, China, Japan, Indonesia and Laos.

Nguyen Co Thach Pledges To Remove Advisers

BK2909165290 Hong Kong AFP in English 1626 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] New York, United Nations, Sept 29 (AFP)—Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach Saturday pledged that his country would remove all its military advisers from Cambodia as part of a U.N.-brokered peace plan for that country. He made the promise before meeting here with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker in the highest level contact between the two governments since the Vietnam war.

Mr. Thach, responding to reporters' questions prior to the meeting said Hanoi had withdrawn all its troops from Cambodia, which Vietnam invaded in December 1978 to topple the communist Khmer Rouge then in power.

Western experts generally agree that the pullout has been completed, but U.S. officials have complained about the continued presence of Vietnamese military advisers helping the Hanoi-installed government of Prime Minister Hun Sen.

"We have withdrawn our forces and we will withdraw all our advisers" from Cambodia, Mr. Thach said. But he provided no timetable for the withdrawal. His meeting with Mr. Baker was the highest level contact between Washington and Hanoi since the Paris peace talks in 1973, two years before the end of the Vietnam war. Washington recently resumed direct contacts with Vietnam as part of a major shift in its Cambodia policy which also involved dropping recognition of the tripartite resistance coalition that has been battling Mr. Hun Sen's government.

In recent months State Department officials have held a series of meetings with Vietnamese representatives at the United Nations. When asked Saturday if his meeting with Mr. Thach signalled a movement towards the establishment of relations between the United States and Vietnam, Mr. Baker said issues related to U.S. prisoners of war (POW) and missing-in-action (MIA) from the Indochina conflict first needed to be resolved. "The minister knows that the pace and the scope of our ability to move toward normalization with Vietnam is going to depend on further progress on the POW-MIA issue," Mr. Baker told reporters.

He also said the peace process in Cambodia would be discussed at Saturday's meeting, noting that both Vietnam and the United States have supported recent U.N.-brokered moves toward forming a transitional authority in Cambodia that will lead the country to free elections. "I think the Vietnamese Government has been taking some action to move that process forward," he said.

The U.N. plan, put forward by the five permanent Security Council members—Britain, China, France, the Soviet Union and the United States—has been approved by the four warring Cambodian factions and Vietnam. It calls for the resistance, which comprises the Khmer Rouge and two non-communist groups, and the Hun Sen government to form a Supreme National Council (SNC) to act as Cambodia's nominal executive during a U.N.-administered transition to elections. The SNC was formed earlier this month in Jakarta but differences remain over the council's final makeup.

Washington had made Vietnamese cooperation with the U.N. peace plan a condition for further improvement in relations.

Deputy Foreign Ministers Meet in Phnom Penh

BK0110162490 Hanoi VNA in English 1520 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 1—A consultative meeting of deputy foreign ministers of Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam was held in Phnom Penh, capital of Cambodia, on September 28 and 29.

The Vietnamese delegation to the meeting was headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Tran Quang Co; the Cambodian delegation, by Deputy Foreign Minister Sok An; and the Lao delegation, by Deputy Foreign Minister Soulivong Phasitthidet

The participants exchanged views on questions concerning the settlement of the Cambodia issue. They welcomed the progress of the process of searching for a political solution to the Cambodian conflict due to efforts of the countries concerned, especially to the goodwill and clear-sightedness of the State of Cambodia in general and of Chairman of the Council of Ministers Hun Sen in particular. The Vietnamese and Lao delegations fully supported the correct stance of the State of Cambodia aimed at overcoming the last obstacles in the Supreme National Council (SNC) issue.

The three delegations reaffirmed their determination to coordinate their actions in achieving an early comprehensive political solution to the Cambodia issue on the basis of respect for Cambodia's independence and sovereignty, thus quickly restoring peace and stability in Cambodia and Southeast Asia as a whole.

The meeting called for early reconvening the International Conference on Cambodia in order to concretize and finalise the framework document of the five permanent United Nations Security Council member countries, the Jakarta Joint Statement of September 9, 1990, and the UN Security Council Resolution No. 688 of September 20, 1990.

The participants in the meeting were cordially received this morning by Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia Hun Sen.

Vietnamese Ambassador to Cambodia Ngo Dien was present on those occasions.

Nguyen Co Thach Greets New Cambodian Official

BK3009063190 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach has sent a congratulatory message to Hor Nam Hong, the newly appointed Foreign Minister of the State of Cambodia.

The message also expressed wishes for the strengthening and developing of the warm friendship and close cooperation, in various fields, between Vietnam and Cambodia.

PRC Envoy Optimistic About Improving Relations

OW2809225190 Hanoi International Service in Mandarin 1200 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, the Vietnamese-Chinese Friendship Association and the Nam Dinh Combined Textile Mill jointly held a meeting on 27 September morning to warmly celebrate the 41st anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China and to welcome the visit to Nam Dinh by distinguished guests from the Chinese Embassy in Vietnam. [passage omitted]

Present at the meeting were Huy Dy, secretary general of the Vietnamese-Chinese Friendship Association; Tran Quang Giap, vice minister of Light Industry; Le Huy, vice governor of Ha Nam Ninh Province; Nguyen Van Tuyen, acting director of the Nam Dinh Combined Textile Mill; and some 500 representatives of the workers and staff members of the mill. Chinese Ambassador to Vietnam Zhang Dewei, his wife, some embassy officials, and a XINHUA reporter attended the meeting on invitation.

Comrade Nguyen Van Tuyen, acting director of the Nam Dinh Combined Textile Mill, delivered a speech on behalf of the Vietnamese-Chinese Friendship Association and the more than 18,000 cadres and workers of the mill. [passage omitted]

Acting Director Nguyen Van Tuyen said:

[Begin Nguyen Van Tuyen recording in Vietnamese, fading into Mandarin translation] Vietnam and China are neighboring socialist countries connected by mountains and rivers. During national liberation and socialist construction, the peoples of the two countries once worked side by side, and supported and helped each other. Vietnamese people have always treasured their friendship with Chinese people, and have not forgotten the great support and aid given to Vietnamese people's revolutionary cause by the party, government and people of China. [end recording]

In his speech, he pledged to do his utmost to make positive contributions to an early normalization of the relations between the two countries.

He said: The Vietnamese people are convinced that so long as both sides make efforts, the traditional friendly relations between Vietnam and China and between their peoples will surely be restored and developed soon.

Acting Director Nguyen Van Tuyen wished that the Chinese people will score more and greater successes in their reform and socialist construction and constantly improve their living standards.

Ambassador Zhang Dewei made a return speech. [passage omitted]

He said:

[Begin Zhang recording] We are glad to see that some improvement has been made in Sino-Vietnamese relations recently. We believe that with both sides making concerted efforts for the sake of the fundamental interests of Chinese people and Vietnamese people and for the sake of peace and stability in the region, the relations between our two countries will surely be normalized in the near future. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Leaders Send National Day Greetings to PRC

BK3009115590 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Vietnamese state leaders on Sunday sent a message of greetings to their Chinese counterparts on the 41st National Day of China, 1 October. The message says that Vietnam and China are two neighboring socialist countries which have long traditions of friendship and have assisted each other in the struggle for independence and freedom and in national construction. The Vietnamese people are grateful for China's help and will do their utmost to restore the relations between the two countries. The message maintains that there are favorable conditions for an early normalization of the two countries' relations and expresses the belief that with both sides' efforts, normal relations between the two countries will soon be restored.

Vice Chairman Returns From PRC, Trip Detailed

BK2909164490 Hanoi VNA in English 1543 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Sept. 29—General Vo Nguyen Giap, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, returned here yesterday, concluding his ten day visit to China as a special distinguished guest to the opening ceremony of the 11th Asiad Games.

He was welcomed home by Vo Van Kiet, first vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Nguyen Dy Nien, deputy foreign Minister; Pham Hien, vice minister of culture, information, sports and tourism; and Chinese Ambassador to Vietnam Zhang Dewei.

While in Beijing, General Vo Nguyen Giap attended the opening ceremony the Asiad-90 and the major banquet at the great conference hall. He had cordial meetings with various leading officials of the Chinese Party and government as well as a number of foreign guests. He was warmly received and feted on separate occasions by Gu Mu, vice chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Han Nianlong, president of the Chinese Society for Diplomatic Studies and Fu Hao, president of the External Relations commission of the National People's Congress.

On Sept. 24, Chinese Premier Li Peng warmly received and conversed with General Vo Nguyen Giap. The two officials exchanged views on all issues relating to the relations between the two countries and other issues of common concern. They also expressed their wish that the traditional friendship between the Vietnamese and Chinese peoples would be restored soon and developed and the friendship and cooperation between the two countries would be normalized.

The Vietnamese leader was briefed by leading officials of various Chinese concerned offices on China's experiences in economic, scientific and technical reforms, and visited a number of economic and scientific institutions.

On his way home, General Vo Nguyen Giap stopped over in Nan Ning, provincial city of Guangxi Province where he was warmly welcomed by local authorities and people.

Arriving in Huu Nghi Quan (Friendship Gate), General Vo Nguyen Giap sent a message thanking Premier Li Peng and other leading offcials of the Chinese party and government for creating favourable conditions for him to visit Beijing.

National Assembly Delegation Visits Thailand

BK2909085590 Hanoi VNA in English 0712 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA September 29—A delegation of the Vietnamese National Assembly led by its Chairman Le Quang Dao arrived in Bangkok on Sept. 25 on an official friendship visit to Thailand at the invitation of President of the Thai National Assembly Wan Chansu. The delegation was welcomed at the Bangkok airport by First Deputy Speaker of the Thai House of Representatives Thana Mettarikanon. On Sept. 26 morning, the Vietnamese delegation laid a wreath at the monument to King Chakkri VII [King Rama VII of Chakkri dynasty—FBIS]. It had working sessions with Pancha Kesonthong, speaker of the Thai House of Representatives, and various commissions of the Thai National Assembly. On the afternoon of the same day, the delegation met with President of the Thai National Assembly Wan Chansu. It also had working sessions with the Thai National Committee for Socio-economic Development.

On those occasions, the two sides discussed bilateral relations as well as international and regional matters of common concern. Chairman Le Quang Dao and the other delegates were honoured at a banquet hosted by President Wan Chansu in the evening of the same day.

Le Quang Dao Returns From Thailand Visit

BK3009153390 Hanoi VNA in English 1502 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA September 30—National Assembly Chairman Le Quang Dao returned here today after a week-long official visit to the Kingdom of Thailand.

Chairman Le Quang Dao and his party were welcomed home by, among others, Vice President of the State Council Nguyen Huu Tho, Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers Nguyen Khanh, and General Secretary of the State Council Nguyen Viet Dzung.

Thai Ambassador to Vietnam Rangsan Phahonyothin was present at the event.

Government Offers Incentives To Boost Exports

BK0110051990 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 1 Oct 90 p 30

[By Suphaphon Kanwirayothin and Ratchaphon Kanwanit]

[Text] Vietnam is wooing foreign investors, particularly Thais, to form joint ventures to strengthen its export industries because its textile cooperation pact with the Soviet Union expires this year.

Vietnam looks forward to Thai investors introducing technology and expertise in the textile and garment fields, with Vietnam offering tax incentives, cheap skilled labour and its free-quota export advantage. At the same time, Vietnam regards the United States as a significant market for its textile products and is hoping steps the Vietnamese Government is taking towards normalisation of relations with China and the US will help lift politically-motivated pressure imposed on the growth of textile trade in the US.

These are among important points raised by Nguyen Duy Kiem, director of Textimex, the Union of Textile Production, Export and Import Enterprises of Vietnam's Ministry Light Industries. While the Thais have not yet expressed keen interest in joint ventures, Vietnam is entering negotiations with British, Taiwanese and Malaysian investors, he said. "Under the Government's policy to promote this industry, we have the special economic zone for textiles at Long Binh and Dong Nai near Ho Chi Minh City. Within the zone, foreign investors are entitled to a package of investment privileges which last up to 50 years." And during the first five years the Government will waive income tax, import tax for machinery and for raw materials. "We want Thais to invest in this field because Thailand has experienced rapid growth and technological development in recent years. Thai partners can help us considerably with their expertise and access to major markets like the US and EC," he said.

Thailand, facing a stringent quota system which limits its export growth, can also use Vietnam as an an offshore manufacturing and export base to market products internationally under Vietnam's eligible quota.

Mr Kiem said that in the past potential Thai investors stayed away from Vietnam because of their confusion over Vietnam's investment code. "But we have already modified our investment code and we are confident foreign investors, including Thais, will find the new model of cooperation and incentives attractive." Mr Kiem emphasised that Vietnam's textile industry is entering a "turning point," presenting foreign investors with opportunities worth exploring.

Under the textile agreement signed within the COMECON [Council for Mutual Economic Assistance] framework, which expires this year, there is an annual arrangement to export products worth 100 million rubles with the Soviet Union supplying 30,000 tons of cotton worth 45 million rubles for processing in Vietnam. While the Soviet Union adheres to the agreement, some Eastern European countries have already invalidated certain clauses of the COMECON textile accord of which they are signatories because of sweeping political changes there. Despite compensation in one form or another for the annulment, Vietnam's industry is affected.

According to Mr Kiem, Vietnam has succeeded in altering one significant aspect of the new textile agreement with the Soviet Union. Under the renewed term, the two will base their calculation of importation of raw materials and exports of processed products in US dollars. Vietnam's textile exports to non-socialist countries last year amounted to US$20 million to $30 million to $30 million. It plans to double the export volume in 1991.

Vietnam-Poland Scientific Cooperation Promoted

BK2909084790 Hanoi VNA in English 0709 GMT 29 Sep Sep 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Sept. 29—An agreement on scientific cooperation between Vietnam and Poland for the 1991-95 period has been signed in Warsaw.

Signatories were Prof. Academician Nguyen Van Dao, deputy director and Secretary General of the Vietnam Institute of Sciences; and Academician L. Kuznicki, vice-president of the Polish Academy of Sciences.

Under the agreement, Vietnam and Poland will conduct joint programmes for scientific research, the exchange of scientific documents and visits, personnel training, and mutual assistance in international scientific activities.

Paper Calls for Strong Action Against Smuggling

BK2809110090 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 26 Sep 90

[QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 26 September Editorial: "Participating in Opposing Goods Smuggling—An Important Task of the Armed Forces"]

[Text] Goods smuggling is become widespead in our country, endangering the national economy and destroying social order and safety. In fact, the effort to oppose smuggling is the duty of all sectors, echelons, and citizens. It is also an important task of the armed forces.

Smuggling in our country is a well planned operation. Organizations and individuals that engage in smuggling have seriously violated our party and state economic policies and the state law. Smuggling has upset production plans, damaged local industry, caused the loss of hundreds of billion of dong in state revenue and precipitated social injustice.

In the past, the armed forces, including the border defense force, regular army units in localities, the police, the militia and self-defense forces have worked closely with various state agencies and sectors to suppress goods smuggling. These forces have made initial achievements.

In the border areas of Lang Son, Quang Ninh, Cao Bang, Tay Ninh, An Giang, and Kien Giang provinces, the border defense force, regular army units, and various local army and naval groups have stopped and arrested hundreds of border smugglers and have confiscated goods worth billions of dong.

The armed forces from these agencies have worked closely in controlling, inspecting, and suppressing goods smuggling in hinterland localities at border gates, where smuggling is concentrated, and on transportation routes. Through their past experience and enthusiasm, many cadres and combatants have helped financial and customs officers to detect, arrest, and deal with hundreds of major smuggling rings.

Smuggling suppression is an urgent task of our party and state. As a result, various armed forces must participate in this task actively. Army units and other armed forces at border areas, border gates, and transportation routes must tighten patrols and inspection to stop and arrest all smugglers.

Antismuggling armed units must continually enhance their vigilance and sense of responsibility while upholding the morals and characteristics of military men in order to perform their duties well.

Various command units must improve their management of cadres and combatants, carry out education and propaganda work, quickly end all smuggling activities, and beat back the negative phenomena that is compromising control and inspection work. These units must also coordinate with state administrative agencies to satisfactorily implement market management rules and help localities suppress smuggling, thereby helping to effectively maintain social order and safety.

N.V.L. Calls for Action Against Smugglers

BK2809104890 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Article by "Comrade N.V.L.": "Things That Must Be Done Immediately"]

[Text] For quite a long time, cadres and people throughout the country have been indignant about the production and trade in counterfeit goods as well as the illegal trading of foreign cigarettes and luxury goods. This practice has had a serious effect on our gold and foreign currency reserves, thus causing setbacks at many production establishments, exacerbating an unemployment problem, and resulting in losses in state revenue. Despite repeated reports by newspapers throughout the country revealing counterfeit goods production sites and the application of several directives and decisions of the Council of Ministers, this practice has not been stopped, but has, instead, spread extensively.

Why and how does this phenomenon still exist? I can say that law enforcement was ineffective and punishment was too light. Following are some minor examples:

The paper SAIGON GIAI PHONG on 20 September carried a report saying that a group of fake cement producers was arrested in Tam Phuoc Village, Long Thanh District, Dong Nai Province. The provincial court, however, sentenced Mrs. Duong Thi Hue, the leader, to only 20-months' imprisonment; Le Tan Dung, her accomplice, to 9 months; and Nguyen Hoang Hai, the driver—who is attached to the technical department of the 7th military region—was convicted as an accomplice and was transferred to his department for further action [words indistict].

The journal DAI DOAN KET [Great Unity] published an article entitled: "Who Needs Foreign Cigarettes?" The article, published in its 38th issue dated 24 September, says: With 300 million packages of foreign cigarettes smuggled into the country annually, we lost about half a billion U.S. dollars [figure as heard]. In (?Tieng Giang) Province, an export-import corporation, a marketing cooperative, an aquatic product corporation, a dress-making enterprise, and a wood-processing enterprise invested 10 billion dong in a joint venture to trade in smuggled foreign cigarettes [words indistinct]. Moreover, in 1989 (?officials) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry's scientific and technological service department engaged in business involving the sale of cigarettes, liquor, and beer worth some 1.2 billion dong. Members of squadron No. 919 on 5 and 9 June 1990, smuggled in 9,450 packages of foreign cigarettes, and so forth.

It is noteworthy that the DAI DOAN KET journal did not carry news of the prosecution of these cases, but only mentioned that the state had collected taxes and fines imposed on the law violators. If their only punishment was to pay taxes and fines, then these people will continue their trade even more extensively.

It is obvious that such light punishment will not stop goods smuggling but will, instead, encourage smugglers to expand their activities.

Army Paper Views Gold Drain Effect on Economy

BK2909145690 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 29 Sep 90

[From the press review]

[Text] The paper QUAN DOI NHAN DAN runs an article by Minh Hien dealing with the issue of gold drain, which poses a danger for the national economy.

The author deals with the need to contain the smuggling of luxury goods and the supply of forest and marine products by state agencies to support gold imports.

In the recent past, due to the positive participation of gold and U.S. dollars—in the form of banknotes—the smuggling of gold has flared up more vigorously than during the same period last year. Gold and U.S. dollars have added more steam to all the components of the smuggling locomotive, making it run at higher speed and with less expense and, most important of all, helping bring the value of each business venture to an awesome mark of billions of dong, several hundred thousand U.S. dollars, or tens of kilograms of gold.

State Council Communique on 27-28 Sep Meeting

BK2809160590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 28 Sep 90

["Communique on 27-28 September Session of the Council of State"; date of communique not given]

[Text] On 27 and 28 September 1990, the Council of State met under the chairmanship of President Vo Chi Cong:

1. To implement the eighth National Assembly's seventh session resolution, the state president heard a representative of the Council of Ministers report the results of inspection and action to deal with negativism in the national grain reserve sector, and the views of the National Assembly's Economic, Planning, and Budget Committee on this problem. The Council of State debated and realized that last year, although there were many difficulties in terms of material facilities and that the contingents of cadres have not been consolidated, all cadres and personnel of the national grain reserve sector have demonstrated definite efforts to considerably increase the volume of rice in reserve in order to meet part of the country's demand for grain.

However, in the line of duty performance, the National Grain Reserve Department has committed many serious mistakes. It has slackened its managerial control of finances and materials, causing many negative cases inside and outside of the sector. This has led to a shortage of rice in reserve, rice of poor quality, the trading, exchange, and loan issues of rice and many other supplies at variance with regulations, the loss of an important amount of state assets, and discontent among the people.

The Council of State agreed to the decisions and disciplinary action taken by the Council of Ministers against leaders of the National Grain Reserve Department. It supports the policy of investigating the criminal responsibility of those who have seriously violated the law. Inspection should be conducted continually to severely deal with negativism in the reserve sector and other sectors involved, and through information media, to publicly announce the results to make people aware of them.

The Council of Ministers should quickly perfect the organization of the machinery and determine the function and mission of the national grain reserve sector in order to reestablish order and discipline and ensure the fulfillment of this important state-assigned task.

2. The Council of State heard the head of the National Assembly and State Council office present a draft organizational and operational regulations of the nationalities council and the National Assembly's standing committees, and the views of National Assembly's standing committee chairmen on this issue.

The Council of State gave its views and asked the Nationalities Council and the National Assembly's standing committees, together with the office of the National Assembly and State Council, to compile this draft project and present it to the National Assembly for passage in the sixth session.

3. The Council of State decided to award the Labor Hero titles to three units and one individual who have scored outstanding achievements in building the Tri An hydroelectric power project.

4. The Council of State decided to appoint some members of the Supreme People's Organ of Control.

Paper Says Communist Youth Wing Losing Members

BK2909012090 Hong Kong AFP in English 2048 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Hanoi, Sept 28 (AFP)—Young Vietnamese are losing interest in the Communist Party's youth wing, which has lost half a million members since the start of the year, the TIEN PHONG newspaper said in its latest issue.

The weekly newspaper for the youth group expressed concern that membership had dropped by hundreds of thousands since 1988 and by almost 500,000 since the beginning of 1990. TIEN PHONG said only 70 per cent of the members listed on the youth wing's rolls were active members.

The group, which boasts almost four million members out of a total of 17 million young people in Vietnam, had a national meeting here last week to address the sagging membership figures. Delegates to the meeting called for new activities designed to attract more young people, the newspaper said.

UN Program Funds Human Resources Project

BK3009122990 Hanoi VNA in English 1532 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA September 29—The document of a project, funded by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), on education sector review and human resources sector analysis was signed here today.

Signatories were Tran Chi Dao [name as received], vice-minister of education and training; David Smith, resident representative of the UNDP; and K. Bahr, Director of the Operational Policy and Sector Analysis Division (PSA) of UNESCO [United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization] Paris.

The project, which will be implemented by the Ministry of Education and Training and executed by UNESCO, aims to help the Vietnamese Government design a common long-term strategy to all agencies concerned in the development of human resources of Vietnam in order to meet the country's current needs in its efforts of economic modernization.

The UNDP contribution to this 18-month long project amounts to 500,000 U.S. dollars. UNESCO will contribute an additional amount of at least 50,000 U.S. dollars and the Vietnamese Government provides 973 million dong (Vietnamese currency).

BNP Opens Branch in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City

BK2909165390 Hanoi VNA in English 1526 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Sept 29—The Banque Nationale de Paris [BNP], one of the biggest banks in the world, has just opened two representative offices in Vietnam, one each in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City.

The BNP set up business relations with the State Bank of Vietnam in 1977. Many French companies doing business and investing in Vietnam have accounts with this bank.

Four other French banks have already been running branch offices in Vietnam, namely, Banque Indosuez, Credit Lyonnais, Societe General and ZFCE [expansion not known]. The Standard Chartered Bank of Britain and the Thai Military Bank (Thailand) each also posts a representative in Vietnam.

The Vietnamese Government recently promulgated a new law, the "Bank, Credit Cooperative and Financial Corporation" Ordinance allowing foreign banks to open branch offices in Vietnamese cities. According to some high ranking officials of the Vietnamese State Bank and government, the new law will come into effect soon after the State Bank issues concrete sub-law stipulations in this regard.

Vice Chairman Holds Talks With French Minister

BK3009063590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] The Vietnamese Embassy in France reported that Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers Tran Duc Luong held talks with the French Minister for Industry and Land Management in Paris on 25 September. The embassy's report said: Comrade Tran Duc Luong arrived in Paris on 24 September from Amsterdam and is visiting France at the invitation of the French oil corporation COMTAM [expansion unknown].

Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers Tran Duc Luong will meet with officials of other French industrial corporations. He is also scheduled to meet with the chairman of the French-Vietnamese Friendship Association.

Oil Deposit Found in Southern Continental Shelf

BK3009123390 Hanoi VNA in English 0725 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA September 30—After almost two years of search and exploration, the VietSovPetro [Vietnam-Soviet Petro Chemical] Enterprise has eventually found the Dai Hung mine with the biggest oil deposit discovered so far in Vietnam's southern Continental Shelf.

The successful exploratory drill made early this month by the Tam Dao oil rig lies about 250 km off the southern coast in the Vung Tau-Con Dao Special Zone. With this success, the Dai Hung mine is planned to be tapped one year ahead of plan with an output of 40,000 cubic metres/day-night.

According to the VietSovPetro enterprise, great efforts are being made to enable the enterprise to produce the 5,000,000th ton at the end of this year as from the day it started exploiting oil from the Bach Ho mine also lying in the southern Continental Shelf of the country.

Nguyen Van Linh, Others Honor Le Duc Tho

BK2809141890 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV], the National Assembly, the Council of State, the Council of Ministers, and the Vietnam Fatherland Front [VFF] held a meeting in Hanoi to celebrate the 79th birthday of Comrade Le Duc Tho, former member of the Political Bureau, former secretary of the CPV Central Committee, and adviser to the CPV Central Committee, and to present him with the Gold Star Order.

Attending the meeting were Comrade General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh; Vo Chi Cong, chairman of the Council of State; Do Muoi, chairman of the Council of Ministers; and Pham Van Dong, adviser to the CPV Central Committee. Political Bureau members Nguyen Thanh Binh, Nguyen Co Thach, and Dao Duy Tung; party Secretariat members Tran Kien, Le Phuoc Tho, and Dam Quang Trung; and many other party, state, and VFF leaders were also present.

Comrade General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh read a statement warmly congratulating Comrade Le Duc Tho on the occasion of his 79th birthday and on his being awarded the highest state decoration. He also praised the shining virtues, prestige, and services rendered by Comrade Le Duc Tho to the revolutionary cause of our party and our entire people. On behalf of the Council of State, Chairman Vo Chi Cong presented Comrade Le Duc Tho with the Gold Star Order.

Deeply moved, Comrade Le Duc Tho expressed gratitude for the high honor and for the extremely fine sentiments shown to him by our party, state, and people.

Nguyen Van Linh Speaks

BK2909061290 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Speech by Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, at a Hanoi ceremony held to present Le Duc Tho, adviser to the party Central Committee, with a Gold Star Order—read by announcer]

[Text] Esteemed Comrade Le Duc Tho; Comrades: Today, the party Central Committee Political Bureau and Secretariat, the National Assembly, the Council of State, the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee, and representatives of various branches and sectors at the central level and in Hanoi jubilantly gathered here to attend a ceremony held to present comrade Le Duc Tho, former member of the Political Bureau and adviser to the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, with the Gold Star Order on the occasion of his 79th birthday.

Comrade Le Duc Tho was one of the outstanding disciples of esteemed President Ho Chi Minh, a staunch revolutionary fighter, and an experienced leading cadre of our party and people. In his over 60 years of revolutionary activities full of hardships, Comrade Le Duc Tho dedicated all his energy, talents, and wisdom to serving the glorious revolutionary undertaking of our party and people. With his weighty duty as adviser to the party Central Committee, the comrade has done his utmost to contribute continuously to the collective wisdom of the party Central Committee and Political Bureau. His exemplary loyalty and dedication to the fatherland, the party, and the people, his undaunted, staunch, and indomitable revolutionary spirit, his industry, thrift, integrity, and righteousness, and his affection for his cadres have won the love and respect of our entire party and people.

With his great contributions to the revolutionary cause of the party and the people, Comrade Le Duc Tho highly deserves the noble Gold Star Order awarded to him by the party and the state.

On this occasion, our entire party, people, and army express our admiration and appreciation and our heartfelt congratulations to Comrade Le Duc Tho.

Dear Brother Sau Tho; Comrades: Although it enjoyed important initial results, the renovation undertaking of our party and people on the path toward socialist construction in line with the resolution of the Sixth Party Congress has faced enormous difficulties. We are determined to implement all the valuable advice of great President Ho Chi Minh and to follow the good examples set by those comrades who are advisers to the party Central Committee, such as Pham Van Dong and Le Duc Tho as well as by other preceeding revolutionaries in leading our entire party and people toward gaining further success in the cause of building and defending our socialist fatherland.

My congratulations to Comrade Le Duc Tho on your honor of being awarded the Gold Star Order on the occasion of your 79th birthday.

Le Duc Tho Speaks at Ceremony, Receives Award

BK2909043390 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Speech by Le Duc Tho, adviser to the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, at a Hanoi ceremony held to present him with a Gold Star Order on the occasion of his 79th birthday—read by announcer]

[Text] Dear Comrade Nguyen Van Linh, Comrade Pham Van Dong, and other party and state leaders: Today, I am deeply moved at being the recipient of one of the highest awards from the party and the state, which you, comrades, have presented to me.

The revolution is a common cause. What we have achieved thus far is thanks to the correct leadership of the party and Uncle Ho and to the untold sacrifices of our cadres, combatants, and people.

To be worthy of this high distinction, as long as I am still alive, I pledge to dedicate my utmost efforts, as I have done since I joined the revolution, to the common cause of the party and the country.

I wish the comrade general secretary, comrade Pham Van Dong, and other party and state leaders good health in order to lead our party and people in overcoming all difficulties and implementing the resolution of the Sixth Party Congress and other party central committee's plenum resolutions in a successful and glorious fashion.

Thank you comrade general secretary, comrade Pham Van Dong, and other party and state leaders.

Australia

Assistance Planned for Indonesia, Philippines

BK2709074190 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Australia is to spend $100 million this year on cooperative development projects in Indonesia and a further $40 million will be spent on similar projects in the Philippines. The acting foreign affairs minister, Dr. Neal Blewett, says the aid is the result of recent high-level talks with the two governments in Canberra. Dr. Blewett says the three countries have agreed that sustainable development and environmental protection are essential to the development process.

Fiji

President Assures Muslims of Religious Rights

BK0110065590 Hong Kong AFP in English 0551 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Suva, Oct 1 (AFP)—President Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau assured Fiji's moslems on Monday that they would enjoy freedom of religion under the new constitution, which guarantees political power to indigenous Fijians.

In a speech marking the birthday of the Prophet Mohammed, a national holiday here, Ratu Sir Penaia urged moslems "and all the other communities in Fiji to let us work together to ensure that peace, harmony and progress continue to prevail in our country."

About 45 per cent of Fiji's 720,000 people are ethnic Indians. Most are Hindus but some 55,000 are Moslems. Under the constitution promulgated on July 25, ethnic Indians will have 27 seats in parliament, to 37 for native Fijians. Other minorities will share a total of six.

In a statement issued by the Information Ministry, Ratu Sir Penaia said the constitution "guarantees and protects the freedom of conscience of every citizen." This, he said, "includes freedom of thought and freedom of religion and the freedom to manifest and propagate his religion or belief in worship, teaching, practice and observance."

Fiji's Indian-dominated, multiracial coalition party, which was deposed from government in the first of two military coups in 1987, has condemned the constitution as racist and undemocratic and says it will boycott the poll.

Landowners Urged To Monitor Tenants' Activities

BK3009065390 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] In Fiji, landowners in the country's cane growing areas have been asked to monitor what has been described as the disruptive activities of tenants who are mostly ethnic Indians. A statement issued by the Fijian Cane Growers and Landowners Association following a meeting of its Executive Committee says tenants engaged in activities to destabilize the sugar industry should have their tenancies terminated at the end of their leases in 1994.

Another resolution called on the Native Land Task Board to provide positive assistance to Fijians wishing to take over cane growing land at the expiry of current leases. The committee also condemned the Indian-dominated National Farmers Union for allegedly delaying this year's cane harvesting and [words indistinct].

Indians Win 'Assurances' on Land From Rabuka

BK2809100590 Hong Kong AFP in English 0526 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Suva, Sept 28 (AFP)—Leaders of a new Indian political party which supports Fiji's racially-biased constitution said Friday that they had won fresh assurances on land rights for Indians from Army Commander Major-General Sitiveni Rabuka.

Swani Maharaj, executive leader of the party, said that in talks on Thursday, Maj.-Gen. Rabuka showed that "he was not oblivious to the problems of Indians." Maj.-Gen. Rabuka, who deposed the country's first ethnic Indian-majority government in 1987, "felt Indians were part of Fiji and should be called Fijians," Mr. Maharaj said.

The party, which calls itself the Group of Moderate Indians, was set up this month and has said that it will contest general elections under the new constitution, although this guarantees indigenous Fijians a majority in parliament.

Mr. Maharaj quoted Maj.-Gen. Rabuka as saying that ethnic Indians "had nothing to fear under the new constitution, which was designed to ensure Fijians did not become foreigners in their own land." Mr. Maharaj added: "There are only 350,000 Fijians in the world and they need to be protected. We see the point he is making."

In Thursday's talks, "We also discussed the plight of Indian farmers whose land lease terms will begin expiring in 1992," Mr. Maharaj said.

Maj.-Gen. Rabuka has said that he would prefer Indian land leases to be returned to indigenous Fijians in the 1990s, but he assured the new party he would "talk to the authorities on land," Mr. Maharaj went on. "He has promised to look at the concerns of Indians if he enters politics. Above all the general wanted Fijians lagging behind other races to catch up."

Adi Kuini Bavadra, widow of the prime minister deposed by Maj.-Gen. Rabuka and leader of the National Federation-Fiji Labour Party coalition, has described the new party as politically irrelevant and urged ethnic Indians to boycott the elections.

French Navy Patrol of Fijian Waters Reported

BK2809130190 Hong Kong AFP in English 1151 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Suva, Sept 28 (AFP)—A French Navy crew concluded four days of surveillance of Fiji's 200-mile (320-kilometre) exclusive economic zone Friday under a Paris proposal to monitor illegal driftnet fishing here. A French Embassy statement said France would continue surveillance of Fijian waters "should they so request."

A senior Fijian foreign affairs spokesman said Suva decided to accept the French offer to patrol Fijian waters because New Zealand and Australia were unlikely to lift a ban on defence ties with Fiji. New Zealand and Australia cut defence ties in the wake of the 1987 army coups here, after which France bolstered aid to Fiji, including delivery of heavy trucks and one helicopter to the army. France has offered similar maritime patrols to other smaller island members of the South Pacific Forum.

The French move followed the May 17 meeting of the French South Pacific Council, which resolved that as part of efforts by France to integrate its three island territories in the region, it should "share facilities."

President Francois Mitterrand and Premier Michel Rocard, who attended the annual meeting of French diplomats in the region, also suggested France provide training, research, and environmental protection.

French aircraft and navy patrol boats based in the troubled Melanesian territory of New Caledonia and French Polynesia are to be used for surveillance flights, the embassy statement said. "France will answer concerns of all Pacific states as far as surveillance of fishing areas or prevention of illegal fishing in the waters are concerned," the embassy statement said.

New Zealand

Bolger Remains 'Firm' on Inflation Target

BK2809032890 Hong Kong AFP in English 2257 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Wellington, Sept 27 (AFP)—New Zealand opposition leader Jim Bolger reasserted his leadership here Thursday after one of his backbenchers challenged his national party's economic policy.

Backbencher Winston Peters, who in opinion polls is regularly the most popular opposition member, questioned Tuesday National's economic policy of achieving nil to two per cent inflation by 1993 if it wins the October 27 general election as expected.

Following a party caucus here Thursday Mr. Bolger told a press conference that the inflation target remained the same. "We are very firm on that," he said. "There never was any possibility we were going to move away from it. You don't pluck things out of the air to manufacture policy," Mr. Bolger said. He said that MPs spoke in favour of the target and that "obviously Mr. Peters had a contribution to make". Mr. Bolger said it was a "sheer waste of time" for anybody to be trying to undermine his leadership.

Mr. Peters meanwhile said after the caucus that his earlier comments had been made as an individual, not as an MP.

Asked if he had been rapped over the knuckles by the caucus he said: "There was some anxiety about what I said, yes." But he added: "Nobody's ever gagged me and never will in this business. "It's not a matter of backing down. Say that there's a larger priority and I intend to be part of that priority of winning the next election for National with the largest possible majority."

Asked if Mr. Bolger would make a good prime minister, he said he hoped so.

Western Samoa

Opposition Calls Vote on Suffrage 'Gimmickry'

BK2809030590 Hong Kong AFP in English 2242 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Auckland, New Zealand, Sept 27 (AFP)—A referendum next month in Western Samoa on whether to introduce universal suffrage was "gimmickry of the worst kind", the country's opposition leader Tupua Tamasese Efi said Thursday.

Tupua Tamasese, a holder of one of Samoa's four royal chiefly titles and a former prime minister, said the referendum on October 29 was too close to general elections next February. This was politicising the referendum, he said in an interview with Radio New Zealand.

Voting every three years is currently restricted to Samoa's estimated 32,000 Matai or chiefs. The referendum, for everybody over the age of 21, is to ask whether the country wants universal suffrage.

Samoa, home to 160,000 people, is a group of islands 2,900 kilometres (1,798 miles) northeast of here.

Tupua Tamasese said the referendum was disruptive and was exerting pressure on families, each of which is headed by a Matai. "The problem is that when you have something that touches family in a small community it becomes very emotional and disruptive," he said. "When it is compounded by politicisation and all that goes with it, it becomes unfortunate."

There was no possibility, in that environment, for calm reflection, Tupua Tamasese said. He said he was surprised to find among the estimated 60,000 Samoans living in New Zealand an overwhelming preference for Matai only voting. He said it was not a question of power, "more a cultural thing and how much it touches on families."

Tupua Tamasese said the government of Prime Minister Tofilau Eti Alesana had said it would not be bound by the result of the referendum. "Now this is gimmickry of the worst kind, and I feel very strongly about it because I believe that we need to reflect on enfranchisement," he said.